

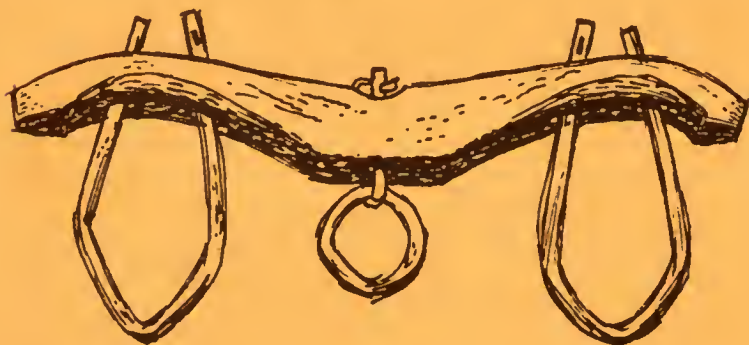
# HEAD LIGHTS



BULLOCK



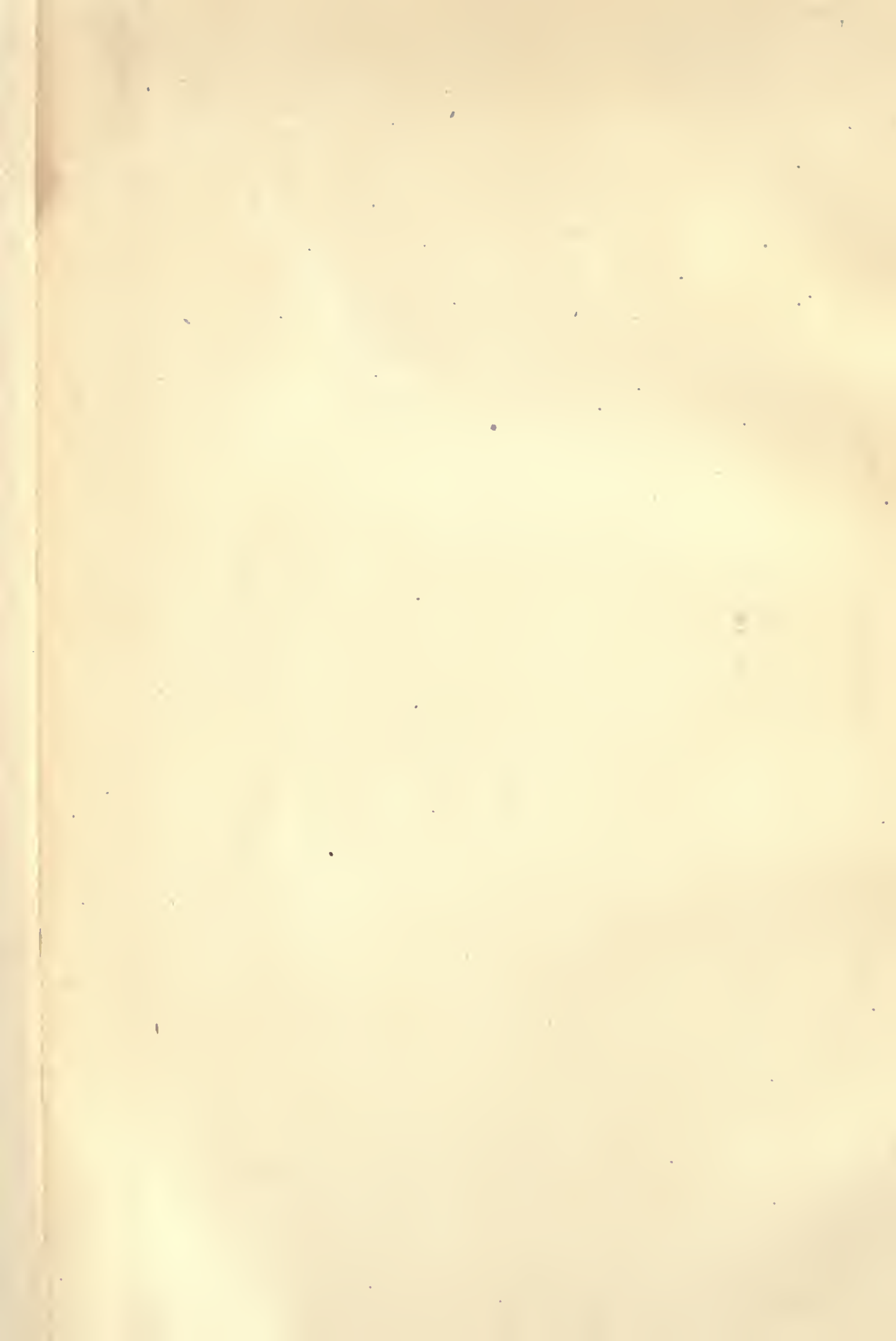
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St. Gaudens' Statute of Lincoln, in Lincoln Park, Chicago.

HEADLIGHTS  
OF  
AMERICAN HISTORY.  
No. 2.

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LINCOLN.

BY  
REV. A. M. BULLOCK, Ph. D.

Author of "MORMONISM AND THE MORMONS,"  
"SEARCH LIGHTS," "STUDIES IN REVELA-  
TION," "WASHINGTON."

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"We cannot escape history."—*Lincoln*.

"He was a leader without seeming to be. \* \* \*  
He died as he had lived, a great Statesman."  
—*Chief Justice Waite*.

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"The Pericles of the American Republic."—  
—*Goldwin Smith*.

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"He was the greatest man I ever knew."  
—*U. S. Grant*.

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"A great man,—great in what he did—even  
greater in what he was."—*James Bryce*.

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"Raised up by God, inspired of God was Abra-  
ham Lincoln; and a thousand years hence, no  
drama, no epic, will be read with greater interest  
than that which tells of his life and death."  
—*Henry Watterson*.

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"The name of Lincoln will remain one of the  
greatest that history has to inscribe on its pages."  
—*D'Aubigne*.

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*Lincoln!* "Mothers shall teach thy name to  
their lisping children. The youth of our land  
shall emulate thy virtues. Statesmen shall study  
thy record, and from it learn lessons of wisdom."  
—*Bishop Simpson*.

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APPLETON, WISCONSIN.  
January, Nineteen Hundred and Thirteen.

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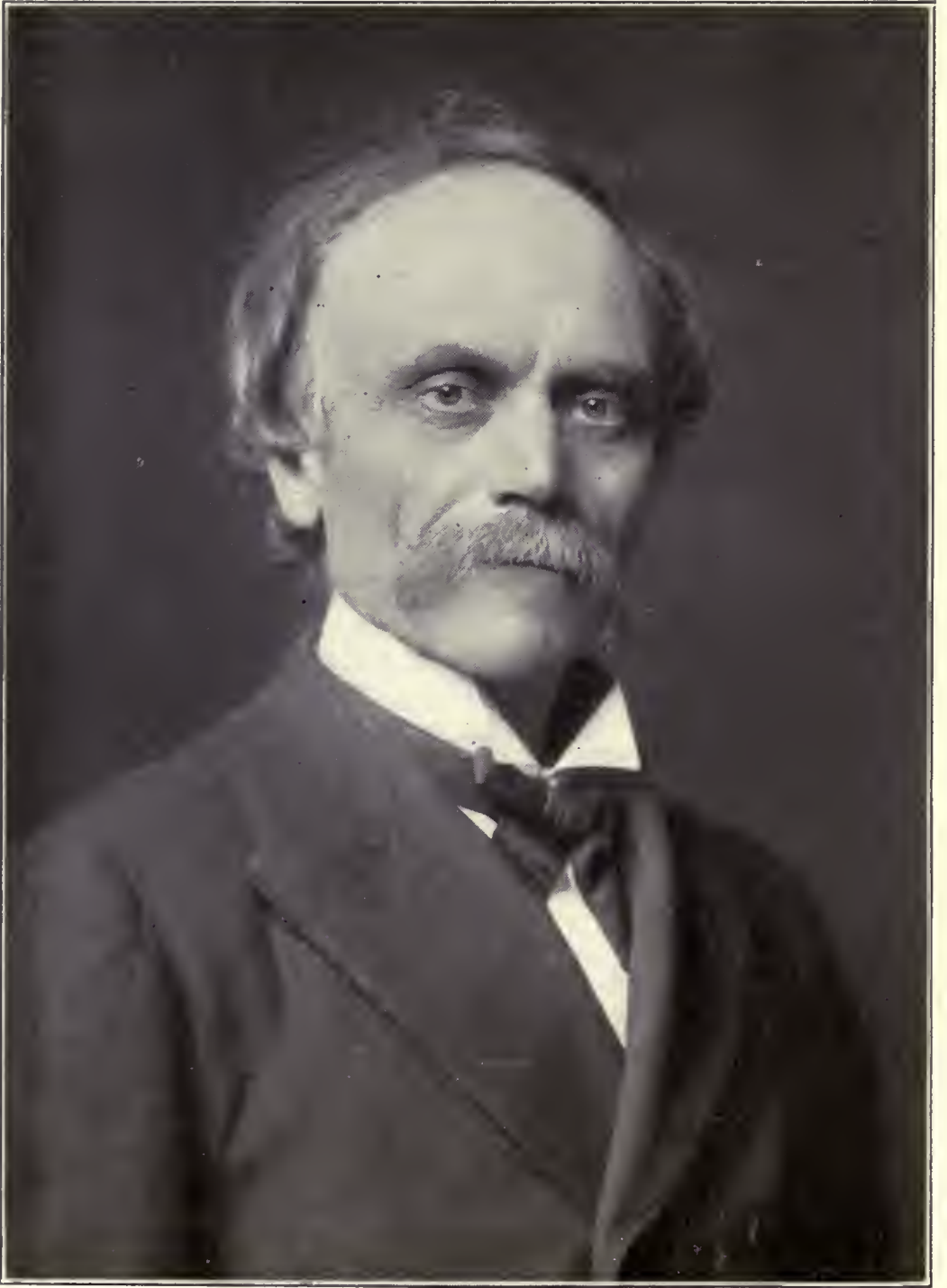
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ALONZO MANSFIELD BULLOCK, PH. D.

## FOREWORD.

A few words of explanation are due the subscribers to "Lincoln."

Mr. Bullock, who had put such faithful loving work in this book, did not live to see it published. He dropped by the wayside, *literally*, and I, his wife, took out of his dead hand a package containing photographs that he was about to send to the engravers for this work. I also took an unfinished page from his typewriter, and put it with the last pages of the copy to send to the printer.

As no one but Mr. Bullock knew all the details of his plans for the finished book, it is impossible to escape making some mistakes, and I ask pardon for such from you, the subscribers to "Lincoln," "Friends who have made it possible to publish the book," as Mr. Bullock often said.

We, my son and I, have done the best we could to carry out Mr. Bullock's plans so far as we knew them, and any failures are due to lack of understanding and not to lack of will.

GEORGIA B. BULLOCK.



TO "UNCLE ABE'S PETS"—"The Tenth New York Artillery," Comrades, living and dead;—to the Hon. Robert T. Lincoln;—to Egbert J. Scott, boyhood friend, who was captured at Chickamauga and died at Andersonville;—and to the late Hon. Z. G. Simmons, honorary member of the National Encampment, G. A. R., and friend of the author in his early manhood,—this book is affectionately dedicated.



Z. G. SIMMONS.





# ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

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The weary form that rested not,  
Save in a martyr's grave;  
The care-worn face that none forgot,  
Turned to the kneeling slave.

We rest in peace, where his sad eyes  
Saw peril, strife and pain;  
His was the awful sacrifice,  
And ours, the precious gain.

—*Whittier.*

## AUTHOR'S STATEMENT.

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Carlyle once said:—"Had the carvers of marble chiseled a faithful statue of the Son of Man, and shown us what manner of man He was like, what His height, what was His build, and what the features of His sorrowing face, I for one would have thanked the sculptor with all the gratitude of my heart for the portrait, as one of the most precious heirlooms of the ages." It is well to bear in mind that the real character and mission of the Christ were but faintly understood while yet living. So in a minor sense contemporaries of great men cannot fully estimate the place these men are to occupy in the years to follow.

A few men are living to-day who saw and knew Abraham Lincoln. *These* even did not know him then as they know him now. They were in the midst of whirling events, the full meaning of which could not then be understood. "God had built him in the back-yard of the Nation, and there wrapped in homely guise, had preserved and matured his pure humanity." The exposure of years was needful to uncover his compelling and enduring greatness, and to rightly show that what was called grotesque and awkward was but the natural grace and ease of a man of conscious power, devoid of personal vanity.

Photography has given us Lincoln, with features in mental action, in various moods and at great moments in his life. But no one sitting, however true to life at that particular time, can show the record of the life entire. Of the hundreds of pic-

tures which appear all are not reliable. Some years ago I came into possession of a picture purporting to be that of Lincoln. I had been familiar with Lincoln portraits of almost every type, but with this there was something which somehow seemed unnatural; just what it was seemed difficult for me to decide. The face and features fairly represented those of Lincoln, but aside from these it seemed unnatural. The dress, the attitude, the form and general posture and things otherwise did not seem to correspond. I could not help to question what it meant. At last I learned the secret. Some would be artist, who knew but little of the man, or *cared* but little,—a fake withal, who thought to gain a little money, had put the head of Lincoln onto the neck and body of John C. Calhoun. Such portraiture of Lincoln are not unknown in print. The following pages, it is hoped, will not thus be judged. They have been submitted for correction and criticism, as to matters of fact, to Robert T. Lincoln and Mr. Sweet, his long time private Secretary, who permitted the examination of manuscripts and original data and documents of the martyred President, and otherwise greatly favored the author in his work. To these men and to many others who have interested themselves, and rendered valuable assistance, the author wishes to acknowledge himself thankfully indebted.

A. M. BULLOCK.

## PREFACE.

Mr. Bullock has written of Lincoln in a manner calculated to give the reader a new idea of the great President. The result of his research in preparing the work shows that he has pretty thoroughly exhausted the subject. His familiarity with the antecedents of Lincoln; his knowledge of the early life and surroundings of the boy, his parental home and a mother's invaluable help, are notably manifest. Lincoln's determination to acquire learning, his devotion to duty, his exceptionally good qualities from childhood on, and his unyielding opposition to slavery—all prophetic of the man and the leader to be, are so told as to be of marked value to the young people of to-day. The picture of the man needed in the Nation's crisis; the Lincoln-Douglas debates; the nomination of Lincoln for the Presidency, his great service through the War, his death and the summary of the man and his work, can but hold the closest attention of the reader, and must leave an impression that cannot fail to be of real value to present day life and activities.

Dr. Bullock makes it plain that Lincoln was a man of fine literary attainments, a leader, a statesman and an exemplary Christian. If I were able I should write of this portraiture of Lincoln as Dr. Warren has written, which is equivalent to saying I indorse what Dr. Warren says.

It is a work that will live and work for the Nation's good for generations.

J. A. WATROUS,  
Lieutenant-Colonel, U. S. Army, retired.





LIEUT. COL. J. A. WATROUS,  
U. S. A. Retired.





## INTRODUCTION.

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Each new moment of each new hour, new human lives are being added to our human family. Rapid as is the melting away of our citizenship at the summons of death, the oncoming of fresh recruits is yet more rapid. And what can the patriot more desire than to see the great characters and great lives of our country's history so depicted, and ever freshly re-depicted, that no generation of Americans, and no generation of their contemporaries in other lands, can ever fail to derive from those characters and lives a fitting inspiration.

High and sacred is the task of those called to this ever new utilization of the past. Whoever really succeeds in transmitting and interpreting to successors the silenced voices of great pathfinding predecessors in world-leadership, and thus effectively contributes to ennoble the world's future by forces drawn from the world's past, achieves a work of more than temporal or spatial significance. He has won a place in the very laboratory of that Power Unseen, who upholds and governs the Universe.

Among all the great lives which render our national heritage luminous and inspiring, what one is more worthy of ever repeated study than that to whose portraiture the following pages are devoted? Gratitude should suffice to cause each future son of the Republic to acquaint himself with so great a benefactor. A Persian poet has said:

Nothing adorns us humans  
More than humanity.

In whom more than in Lincoln was humanity embodied? Is self-sacrificing altruism the crowning excellence and glory of humanity; how it shines forth in him

Whose mighty task was done  
Through blood and tears, that we might walk in  
joy.

Any honest study of the man who was known world-wide as the embodiment of honesty, has little need of commendatory introductions.

The writer of the volume here given to the public has unusual qualification for the task he has undertaken. In not a few psychological peculiarities and principles of action he is akin to the man whom he has aimed to picture. Then he was himself a soldier in those dark days of the Civil War,—one of the brave young men, who in answer to the call of the hard pressed President, promptly and valorously responded,—

We are coming, Father Abraham,  
Three hundred thousand more!

He furthermore wields a practiced pen, and has previously made uncommonly extensive studies in the beginnings of our national history. With the Lincoln literature he has thoroughly familiarized himself; and in his use of the material selected he ever keeps the personality of the central figure so in view that even young readers of history will be likely to be carried forward from the first page to the last by the charm of the heroic and personal touches continually coming to light.

When Augustus Saint-Gaudens passed from earth, his friend, Richard Watson Gilder, solaced

his own poignant grief by remembering that it had been the sculptor's high privilege to work with Lincoln as a subject, and so to link his name to one assured of immortality. These are his words:

O fateful stars! that lit the climbing way  
Of that dear, martyred son of fate and fame,—  
The supreme soul of an immortal day,—  
Linked with his name is our great sculptor's name;  
For now in art eternal breathes again  
The gaunt, sweet presence of our chief of men—  
That soul of tenderness; that spirit stern,  
Whose fires divine forever flame and burn.

While yet living, my friend, the author of this book is to be congratulated on a like good fortune. He has linked his name to Lincoln's, and in an art more expressive than that of the sculptor, caused to breathe again

The gaunt, sweet presence of our chief of men—  
That soul of tenderness; that spirit stern  
Whose fires divine forever flame and burn.

WILLIAM FAIRFIELD WARREN.

Boston University.

America has gained one more ideal character. He (Lincoln) has the wisdom which happily belongs to a perfectly honest and simple character. He never was led by cupidity, vanity or selfishness of any kind. He had the result of a naturally sympathetic nature, a remarkable power of reading public sentiment and keeping himself in touch with what he called the common people. \* \* \* He would have done nothing unconstitutional to effect immediate emancipation. He did not, as President, allow himself to be led into premature and illogical



measures. But biding his time, with patient sagacity, he struck it, (slavery) deliberately and legally the blow of which it died. It struck him in return the blow which will make him live in the love of the Nation and of mankind forever.—  
GOLDWIN SMITH.

\* \* \*

Lincoln never posed or put on airs or attempted to make any particular impression. \* \* \* He seemed to see every side of everything. He had the most comprehensive, the most judicious mind, least faulty in his conclusions, of any man I ever knew. \* \* \* This unerring judgment, this patience which waited and which knew when the right time had arrived, is an intellectual quality that I do not find exercised upon any such scale, and with such unerring precision by any other man in history. \* \* \* He developed into a great military man, that is to say, a man of superior military judgment. After three or four years of constant practice in the science and art of war he arrived at this extraordinary knowledge of it so that Von Moltke was not a better General, or an abler planner or expounder of a campaign than was President Lincoln. To sum it up he was a born leader of men. He knew human nature; he knew what chord to strike, and was never afraid to strike it, when he believed the time had arrived.  
—CHARLES A. DANA.

# ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

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Some years ago, in one of our Eastern cities, a guide was conducting a company of visitors through a celebrated Art gallery. Near the entrance of the gallery hung a large painting. Daubs of color here and there made that painting, near at hand, appear anything but comely and attractive. Said one of the visitors in passing:—"What an amateur piece of work! what could have been the object in placing such a specimen in a gallery like this?" There were artists in that company; but the remark passed unheeded. The visitors strolled on, admiring now this, then that. Returning after a time on the opposite side of the gallery, and at some distance from the entrance, the one who had criticised the painting named, turned suddenly and said:—"Look there! see that magnificent painting! how did we come to miss it in passing?" Smiling, the guide responded:—"Why, madam, that is the 'amateur painting' noted as we entered." That painting was the work of a master artist, intended however, for a distant view. An Angelo, a Raphael, a Kaulbach, could comprehend the value of that rare painting near at hand, but to see its worth, and the blending tints and harmony of its parts, it was needful for the untrained eye to see it from the distance.

So it is at times with men and women of real worth and greatness. Fifty years ago or so, at the entrance way of our Civil War, there appeared a



strange and unpretentious man, who, to the near-sighted and to the casual observer, seemed illy suited for the place of leadership assigned him in that eventful crisis. The few could see and did know his worth, but the masses, to understand, must see him in the focal light of deeds accomplished.

We are apt to judge of men by the pleasing presence, by the seemly face and symmetry of form, by what they wear and how they wear it; by what society calls genteel, and what the world calls bright and brilliant. We shun the haggard face, the graceless form, the awkward carriage, the sad, the sorrowing and the stricken. But could we see more clearly, and could we judge more accurately, the rough and repulsive exterior, like shells of oysters, like dingy sands, like rugged foothills, like treeless mountains,—would prove at times the way marks to the richest gems;—to the Johannesburgs, the Melbournes, the Yosemites, the Gardens of the Gods in human history.

The Seer of ancient Israel gives us a partial portraiture of some of the human qualities of the Son of Man:—"He shall grow up as a tender plant and as a root out of a dry ground. \* \* \* He hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see Him there is no beauty that we should desire Him. \* \* \* A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, and we hid as it were our faces from Him. \* \* \* He was despised and we esteemed Him not. \* \* \* He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth. \* \* \* For the transgression of my people was He stricken. \* \* \*"

These were some

of the human qualities and some of the characteristics of the sacred mission, of the matchless Son of man,—whose name was destined to stand above every name in all history; and yet He was misunderstood. It is true we understand these characteristics *now* in the converging light and facts of centuries. This portraiture, in a minor sense, is almost a photogravure of some of the great leaders in the world's history.

It matters little how the externals may have appeared, men whose lives have been consecrated to the welfare of the race and coupled with great events never die. They may be buried and pass from mortal sight, but their deeds and thoughts and influence live in the hearts and memory of the world. So it has been, so it is and so it always will be. Such characters and names stand forth in bold relief and can no more be lost to historic record than the erosions of time can wear away the epochs in which they lived and wrought. In this record of enduring fame appears Abraham Lincoln.

We seek to commemorate the work and character of this man. For him no claim is made for charm of face, or *beau ideal* of physical form; for the æsthetic in person or in vesture;—for faultless dress, or stately carriage, or grace of bearing. No claim is made of influence, power or prestige from an illustrious ancestry;—no claim of inherited wealth or place of honor. He was born in the cabin of a pioneer, and was reared in want and poverty. The surroundings of his early life and manhood were dark and forbidding and gave no promise of his future fame and greatness.

Strange, indeed, appears the story of this man. Strange, I am persuaded, because the hand of God marked out the way, guarded the child, and led the boy, the man, in ways he did not know or understand; and when the crucial moment came raised him to supreme command and intrusted him with the destiny of the Nation. Only a mighty soul, inspired of God, could breast the adverse tides and stem the difficulties and the dangers which were in the way; only a mighty soul, imbued with wisdom from on high, could take the helm when the storm of generations had gathered, and was already opening in its fury, and guide the Ship of State through the raging sea of strife, and anchor her at last in the harbor of united peace,—WITH COLORS,—O SIGHT! PITEOUS BUT SUB-LIME!—DIPPED IN THE BLOOD OF A NATION'S NOBLEST SONS!! YET WAVING IN CRIMSON GLORY TO THE BREEZE OF UNIVERSAL FREEDOM!!!

#### **Over and Underestimate of Men—Misconception.**

Sir William Taylor has said:—"The world knows not its greatest men." This comes about, sometimes, because there lacks the greatness of events to bring them out;—sometimes, because of the dimness of the light;—sometimes, because of toning up or toning down the facts of history, and adding to or taking from the background of the real life.

Many indeed are the uncrowned kings of earth, unknown to wordly fame, but future kings unto



our God, and destined, like the stars, to shine forever. From this point of view, I take it, Dr. Cuyler has said:—"In the sight of God, Lincoln was no more precious than the humblest drummer boy who bled away his young life on the sod of Gettysburg or Chattanooga." This declaration of Dr. Cuyler was no disparagement to Lincoln, but an earnest protest against the custom of hero-worship. There is a fashion of picturing men who come within the lime-light of great events as something more than men. In this we do these men a wrong,—we do ourselves a wrong. Shakespeare puts into the mouth of Antony at the funeral of Caesar;—"The evil that men do lives after them, the good is oft interred with their bones." Biographers and eulogists of our great men sometimes take the opposite as their rule, picturing the good without spot or blemish, and losing sight entirely of frailties and defects. This may be generous, but not just to historic record. It is not necessary to make our heroes demi-gods or to trespass upon the impossible. When we consider the talents and characteristics of our great men, as reflected in their life and work, with visions unaccustomed to the peculiar brightness, we are able to see only the salient points, jutting in the glamour, as something more than human, and to overlook our own high kinship and heritage. It is something great, greater than we sometimes think, *to be a man*, and the undulations of greatness as we see them are only the outcroppings of God's image. It is only human that God somehow touches man and that man somehow touches God. "He made us

a little lower than the angels and crowned us with glory and honor." There is ample scope, I am sure, within the limits of true manhood to give full weight and measure to the richest gems of human kind, even when we leave them in their proper settings.

### Lincoln Intensely Human.

Abraham Lincoln was a man of like passions with ourselves. It is not our purpose to deify him, or to hold him up as perfect and free from defects,—to strip him of those qualities which give us the feeling of attachment for him. He was one of ourselves. "He was human to the core."<sup>1</sup> He had qualities of mind and soul which made him equal to the best born of earth. He had those characteristics which made him one of the plain common people. He moved in touch with strongest, the highest and the best, and was never overmatched. He walked on a plain with the lowliest and was esteemed as their counsellor and their friend. He was the great *American Commoner*, the friend and the servant of the people.

Who his ancestors were, or what his genealogy we may not question minutely here. Being asked concerning his grandfather, Lincoln himself once said:—"I am more concerned to know what his grandson will be."<sup>2</sup> Enough for us to know that

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<sup>1</sup>"Abraham Lincoln's greatness and worth lay in his simple manhood. So that the excuse that we offer for the faults and failings of some great men:—"They were only human," was the very crown of his excellence. He was a whole man, human to the core of his heart."—*Robert Collier*.

<sup>2</sup>Lincoln Memorial Album, p. 203.—*Robert Collier*.



WM. F. WARREN, LL. D.





noble blood coursed in his veins,—the blood of the Puritan and of the Cavalier. Where or how he got his genius we may not query. As well might we inquire where Phidias, or Shakespeare, or Burns, or Mozart, got theirs. A well known teacher once said:—"What is ordinarily known as genius is but the result of application and hard work."<sup>3</sup> I am persuaded that much of the halo gathering around our Lincoln has its solution here. He had his special qualities of mind and heart and mother wit. He was born with noble powers, with ideals and ambition to utilize those powers, a heart, a soul to govern and to rule. The times in which he lived and the school of experience through which he passed, rough and forbidding though they were, had their star of destiny and their ray of light and hope. But Divine wisdom and the hand of Providence can best explain the way from the shadows, the sorrows, and the trials of the lowly cabin to the Nation's Capitol and the martyr's tomb.

### **The Men and the Spirit of '76.**

When Lincoln was born in Kentucky, only twenty-five had passed since the War for Independence. Veterans of Lexington, and Valley Forge, and Trenton and Yorktown, were in the land. The blood of Revolutionary fathers coursed in his veins. Washington had been dead less than ten years. The spirit of Colonial heroism was abroad. Adams and Jefferson and others were still alive. The heroes of the Revolution were the ideals

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<sup>3</sup> Dr. Luther J. Jeronsens.

of that generation. Lincoln revered the fathers and looked upon the Declaration and the Constitution of the Nation as almost sacred. Washington was his ideal of a man, a patriot and a statesman. To this spirit of reverence for the great Declaration, for the Nation and its principles, together with his inborn hatred for slavery, may be traced, no doubt, the inspiration of the Emancipation Proclamation, which, perhaps above all other acts performed by him, has made his name imperishable in the history of the Nation and of the world. To-day, with nearly fifty years between us and his death, posterity offers at the shrine of Abraham Lincoln the universal tribute of true greatness, and pronounces him the "man for the times" in which he lived.

### **God in History.**

Here we observe, if we look closely, the footprints of God are everywhere visible in human history. His eye is upon the world, and His hands upon the nations. In the centuries gone by He spoke through the prophet, a hundred and fifty years before Cyrus was born—"Thus saith the Lord to His annointed, to Cyrus whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before Him. I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I am the Lord which call thee by thy name, even the God of Israel. \* \* \* I will gird thee though thou hast not known me."

When God wants men for some special work, He first endows them with the powers and qualities needed for the work He wants accomplished. He

then puts them through a course of training and educates them for their special work. God wanted a man to lead the children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage. For forty years He leaves Moses at the court of Pharaoh, then takes him out into the rough and wild and barren desert of Arabia. There He further fits him for the work. Then He summons him back to Egypt. So He did with Lincoln. His official training was in the wilds of Kentucky, amid pinching poverty in Indiana and on the virgin prairies of Illinois. When the time was fit, however, and God was ready, He summoned him to the front. He placed in his hand the sceptre of authority, which he wielded with that ease, power and wisdom which astonished the world, and won for him immortal fame.

### **Environments.**

In tracing the life of this illustrious man, a faithful portraiture requires that we keep in mind the times and places where he lived;—his environments, and those of the people with whom he mingled. Unity and just relations should be preserved between the subject and his surroundings. To picture the early life of Washington, for instance, other than in a wild and sparsely settled colony, is to lose sight of the interspersed realities in which his genius, his wisdom, his greatness appeared, would be to lose sight of the real man. To speak of Lincoln as practically alone in the trials, and struggles and sorrows of his early life, savors more of romance than reality, makes the contrast out of place and deprives us of a kindred touch.



The story of his early life has become inseparable from the rude and shabby and cheerless cabin where he was born, the pole shed, or "half faced camp,"—as such were called,—where he lived awhile when a better home was being fitted up;—the low and open attic where he slept;—the wooden pegs which served the purpose of a ladder;—the bunks made of poles, and beds of boughs and leaves, with quilts and coverings of skins of wild beasts;—coats and clothing made of the hides of wolves, and bears and deer;—stools of slabs, tables of riven logs, earthen floors, and chimneys made of sticks and logs. But it savors of unreal life when we speak of these environments of want and penury, as something unusual in pioneer life, and as though in the case of Lincoln, they dropped down in the midst of plenty and in an old and settled country. There may be those who read this sketch, now aged and infirm, who, as pioneers, in the early days, built the one roomed shanties, chinked the cracks with sticks and mud, and covered them over with riven logs, or barks and boughs of trees, and lived long years with scanty means and plainest food, and thought it luxury when their larder was something more than potatoes and salt, corn dodgers and the like.

Especially were these conditions prevalent among the pioneers on the far frontier at the beginning of the last century. Then North-central Kentucky was on the extreme limits of civilization. The effect of the then recent barbarous and savage surroundings were still apparent in the rude hovels, primitive customs, the ignorance and uncouth manners of

some of the early settlers. It were not strange if the Lincolns shared to some extent in parts of this heritage.

The parents of Lincoln were poor ; but it was not the poverty of city slums and crowded rookeries, or that of sloth and shiftless loafers. It was the poverty of the American pioneer, out on the far frontier in the wilderness of the West.

### **Ancestry.**

Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks were married in Washington County, Kentucky, June 12th, 1806. The families of this couple had been attracted to these new lands by the alluring reports of Daniel Boone, and his adventures. They had emigrated from the Shenandoah Valley near the close of the eighteenth century,—Kentucky was then a part of Virginia. Abraham Lincoln, grand-father of the future President, and Daniel Boone were personal friends and were related by marriage and inter-marriage. This Lincoln when a young man went from the Shenandoah Valley to North Carolina. He was there married, and from thence removed with his family to Kentucky.

The story of Lincoln's parentage and early life as told in a thousand volumes, booklets and pamphlets and sometimes on the rostrum, is so often replete with misrepresentations, incongruities and contradictions that it is no easy task to separate the truth from falsehood. Careless and unwarranted statements, and groundless tales, and ignorant assumptions have sometimes won belief among the credulous and uninformed, while scandal mongers,



ever ready to imagine evil rather than good are always lurking to inflame the unwary and the evil minded. The lack of evidence, too, has been no small hindrance in ascertaining facts. The long hidden secrets of the Egyptian Sphinx may illustrate, in a minor way, the confusion and misconception touching Lincoln's ancestry;—and even his own uncertainty concerning his parents' marriage have added to the confusion. We have it from authority which is beyond all question that Lincoln himself sought diligently, but in vain to discern the legal proof of his parents' marriage, but died without the proof positive that he was born in honest wedlock. He caused to be made a careful search of records in Hardin County, while since, it has developed that the marriage took place in another country and not in Hardin.<sup>4</sup> It is now known that Jesse Head, a well to do minister of the Methodist Episcopal church performed the ceremony. Lincoln's parents on both sides were of lineage of which he had no cause to be ashamed.

The grand-father of Lincoln was fifth in line from one of the brothers who left Old England in 1736 to rid themselves of an odious government. They founded the Hingham colony in the State of Massachusetts. The blood of a noble liberty loving ancestry coursed in the veins of Thomas Lincoln.

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<sup>4</sup>*Statement to the author by Mr. Sweet, Robert Lincoln's Priv. Sec'y.* The following statement, given at Louisville, Ky., under oath may be noted: "I was present at the marriage of Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks, in Washington County, Kentucky, near the town of Springfield; one Jesse Head, a Methodist preacher, performed the ceremony. I knew the said Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks well, and knew the said Nancy Hanks to have been virtuous and respectable, and of good parentage."—*Christopher Columbus Graham.*

His ancestors were among the Puritans of Massachusetts, the Friends of Pennsylvania and the Cavaliers of the South, while General Lincoln of Revolutionary fame, and the two Governors Lincoln of Massachusetts were of the same blood and lineage, as was also Att'y General Lincoln in Jefferson's Cabinet.

Nor was the ancestry of Nancy Hanks less worthy and respected. Back in English history the Commoners' rights were awarded, it is claimed, to a couple of brothers by the name of Hanks because of valiant service rendered in war against the Danes. The deed of title was signed by the grandson of Alfred the Great. A grandson of one Thomas Hanks, a descendant of one of the above, who fought for the Commonwealth under Cromwell, came to America in 1699, Joseph Hanks by name. Benjamin Hanks, the fifth in line, moved south and westward from the Shenandoah with the tide of emigration. They were prosperous townfolk. Four years later the father and mother died leaving Nancy, the youngest child, an orphan at the age of nine years. The latter found a home with an uncle and aunt, her mother's sister. It is interesting to scan the history and incidentally note the will of Joseph Hanks which settles once and for all the parentage of Lincoln's mother as also her worthy, upright and stainless character.<sup>5</sup>

There is a hidden secret in the story of Lincoln which it is well we do not overlook. His father Thomas was the youngest of five children in his

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<sup>5</sup> Jefferson's Attorney General was of this family and refused a place on the Supreme Bench of U. S.—*Watter-son*.



father's family. When Thomas was but six years of age he was with his father in the field. An Indian came upon them unawares and killed the father. An elder brother, near the home, saw the father fall; he rushed into the house, snatched a loaded musket, which perhaps he had never shot before, aimed through a loop hole, and shot the Indian dead, just as he was stooping to take the younger brother as a captive. Who shall say that God had nought to do with that bullet and its aim, which saved the child, destined in the years to come to be the father of him, who, eighty years thereafter, was to be looked upon as the leader and the savior of a free and independent nation. And is it not quite out of place to denounce this orphan boy, when grown to manhood, which is sometimes done, as among the low and shiftless and most degraded of the "white trash" so-called, and especially so when the facts do not confirm or warrant the charge.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup>After the nomination of Lincoln for the Presidency, as is so often the case in political campaigns, scandalous stories were circulated about the worthlessness of the father and mother of Abraham Lincoln. Twenty years later, through the efforts of Dr. J. M. Buckley, Miss Ida Tarbell and others, these stories were sifted and their utter falsity shown through documentary and other unquestionable evidence. In the vicinity of the Lincoln home in Kentucky there had never been any question as to the respectability of Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks. The marriage record and certificate, signed by Rev. Jesse Head, a prominent and highly respected Methodist Minister, who performed the ceremony, are now matters of history. An account of the marriage feast, with a detailed description and menu of the feast, remarkable for those times, has been put on record by parties present at the wedding. \* \* \* "Tom Lincoln was a carpenter, and a good one for those days, when a cabin was built mainly with the axe, and not a nail or bolt or hinge in it, only leathers and pins at the door, and no glass, except in watches and spectacles and bottles. Tom



HOUSE WHERE LINCOLN WAS BORN.





## Birth and Frontier Life.

When Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks began their married life, few, very few indeed were the comforts of life in that then far frontier. The advantages of school and church and culture, even in their rudest form, were extremely limited. There were no established schools; and school terms, at the best, were haphazard and irregular, of short duration and far between, depending largely upon itinerant masters happening along. Here in the wilds of Kentucky, in this poor cabin home of the pioneer, on February 12th, 1809, came the child who was destined to grace and honor our Nation's history, and to stand forever among the foremost characters in all ages.<sup>7</sup>

The child was strong and active and full of life, but outside a few stray incidents, a snap shot now

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had the best set of tools in what was then and now Washington County. \* \* \* I saw Nancy Hanks Lincoln at her wedding, a fresh-looking girl. Tom was a respectable mechanic and could choose, and she was treated with respect. \* \* \* It is all stuff about Tom Lincoln keeping his wife in an open shed in a winter. \* \* \* William Hardesty, who was there too, can say with me that Tom Lincoln was a man and took care of his wife."—*From affidavit, Dr. Christopher Columbus Graham, Louisville, Ky., 1884.*

<sup>7</sup>The morals, the religious training and the manly and womanly characteristics of much of the rugged pioneer times, do not suffer in comparison with much of our modern and so-called refined society. The highest character is not usually developed in ease and luxury and in the flowery pathways of life.

We are indebted to Leonard Swett, a lawyer friend of Mr. Lincoln, for an account given to him by Lincoln himself of his early life. "It was told," says Mr. Swett, "with mirth and glee. His biographers have given to his early life the spirit of suffering and want. Mr. Lincoln gave no such description, nor is such description true. His was just such a life as has always existed and now exists in frontier States."

and then of the home, the mother and the father, an account or two of youthful mates, and a flash light here and there to break the monotony of the fearful solitude, very little is known of the first seven years of that young life. The cheerless cabin of a poor frontiersman;—the meager record of a migratory father, with the allurements of the rifle and wild game;—a mother's love and prayers and oversight;—a sister's care and companionship;—some boyish sports with friends like Dennis Hanks and Austin Gallaher;—a few days schooling off and on in an old log hut some miles away;—a Christian service now and then in some log cabin, or wooded grove;—the heart throbs at the unmarked grave of a younger brother;—the tokens of restless vigor of strong physique, an active brain and a noble heart,—are rifts in the cloudy darkness which must tell the story of those formative years.

To secure good titles to Kentucky lands in those days was most difficult, \* \* \* Because of this Daniel Boone lost all his Kentucky possessions. Largely for this reason, and because of incoming slavery, to which the Lincolns were bitterly opposed, and because of attractions farther west, a new home is sought, down and across the Ohio River. Indiana, then, was scarcely more than one grand stretch of wilderness, (though that year it was admitted as a State into the Union) inhabited by roving Indians and the wild beasts of the forest. Here again we find the boy of eight years in the rude cabin of the pioneer; and here, on the frontier of southern Indiana, he spent his youth and early manhood. In these frontier homes, his life and

character do not lose by extreme contrast, as in some fairy tale, with the children of other pioneers.<sup>8</sup> Through these common experiences of privation and hardship of pioneer life there is indeed a warmer touch of heart and soul as we enter the poverty-stricken home of the future President, and trace his course and difficulties, sorrows and discouragements, together with the defeats and triumphs of succeeding years. His home was poorer, the comforts less, the privations greater, and the hardships more severe, no doubt, than in some of the homes even in those early times and frontier places.<sup>9</sup>

### Home Life,—Parents and Characteristics,— Influences.

Thomas Lincoln, like most of the other settlers, was illiterate. There were no schools and he had no advantages of schooling. After his marriage, his wife taught him to write. He had good common sense. In some respects he lacked thrift and ambition, but he was not wanting in self respect. He worked with a will when work came his way without the seeking and was determined and energetic when decision was once made. "He was not

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<sup>8</sup>Thomas and Nancy were good common people, not above or below their neighbors.—*Dr. Graham, Louisville, Ky., as above.*

<sup>9</sup>I am only suggesting the outline story of some who may read these pages, no doubt, when I say that my own parents were not owners of a city mansion. My sisters and brothers were born in a little log house, and I only escaped the disgrace, if disgrace it is, because I chanced to be the youngest of the family. And yet, was born in the State of New York, and scarcely a generation before, Lincoln was born in the far off and much newer frontier of Kentucky.



lazy, but one of those old fellows peculiar to those pioneer times.”<sup>10</sup> He liked to fish and hunt, and living, in those times depended much upon this. He had learned the carpenter’s trade, but there was comparatively little of that to do. He was peaceful and accommodating, friendly, openhearted and jovial. He was slow to take affront, but when once aroused was well nigh invincible. He was a little above the medium height, strong and muscular and fearless. He was a man of good morals and in his way religious. He did not drink intoxicating liquors, or swear, or gamble, or play at games of chance. Withal he had good, strong natural abilities. He was easy-going and inclined to take things as they came, when he might, sometimes, perhaps have made them better.

In the infancy and childhood of Lincoln his lifelines were dark and unpromising. His secluded life in the wilds of Kentucky, and the early years in Indiana had nothing unusual to cheer and to gladden save the companionship of a loving sister, and the tender oversight of a devoted mother, who was possessed of rare qualities of mind and heart. Though born to drudgery and hardship, she was superior in culture and refinement to much of her surroundings, and was possessed, too, in a marked degree, of the higher ideals of life. The poorly clad and tender-hearted boy wins our sympathy and affection. He seems determined to make a friend of frowning fortune. He appears to have been born with the birth-mark of sorrow and disappointment, and this undertone of sadness made his life,

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<sup>10</sup> Statement made to the author by Robert T. Lincoln.



at times, most touching and pathetic. "All his life long," we are told, "he put barriers between himself and the world through the medium of his humor." Mirth and sadness seemed to hold determined contest for control, but "mirth and melancholy are twins cradled in the hearts of all great men." In the case of Lincoln they grew together in surpassing strength and union, yet showed but little trace of kinship. His cabin home offered but few comforts, and his chief amusements were to sit in his mother's lap, lean upon her arm and be caressed; taught of her to read and write, and sit by her side and listen to Bible tales, and the rehearsing of country legends. His mother cautioned and encouraged him against growing up in ignorance, vice and squalor, and pictured to him the future he might make for himself. These lessons were well directed, carefully learned and faithfully observed, as the sequel of his life fully shows. He owed to his mother some of the finest traits of his character, and the cultivation of some of those qualities which distinguished him as a man and endeared him to the people. Dr. Holland has said:—"She had much in her nature that was truly heroic, and much that shrank from the rude life around her. A great man never drew his infant life from a purer and more womanly bosom than her son." To her he owed, largely, his thorough knowledge of Scriptures; and he never spoke of her without invoking a blessing upon her memory. In after years he referred to her as his "Angel mother." To his father he owed some of the manly qualities of his nature, as also his vein of humor and his talent for story telling.

Let the curtain here fall. We will not here pause to witness the hopeless, almost broken-hearted little boy as he stands beside the outstretched form of his lifeless mother. The secret pain and sorrow of that orphan heart cannot be told. The mother had been taken sick with a deadly fever.<sup>11</sup> "There was no physician," says Mr. Watterson, "within thirty-five miles, nor a preacher within one hundred miles. \* \* \* Placing her hand on the head of the little boy, nine years old, she said 'I am going away from you, Abraham, and I shall not return. I know that you will be a good boy; that you will be kind to Sarah and to your father. I want you to live as I have taught you and to love your heavenly Father.' "

In after years Providence opens the way, and another earnest, wise, sweet-spirited and tender-hearted woman is to do him service as a mother and a guide. How much he owed to her the world may never know.

Note married life.

### **Hidden Life and Worth Disclosed.**

Inborn aspiration, stimulated, encouraged and directed by this wise and unbroken maternal influence, from earliest childhood to manhood, are quickened in his soul by the possibilities to which applied industry and an upright life may lead.

The boy dreams; he lives his dreams. He is determined to know something and to make something of himself. He weighs his talents and measures his strength by surmounting obstacles which confront

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<sup>11</sup> Milk sickness.

him, and by conquering difficulties in the way. He makes himself master of the situation where occasion leads, or duty calls, and by shaping his course and conduct always with the standard of right and justice.

The boy thus reared is kept in touch with the common people. He reads and studies and thinks. His soul becomes permeated with the principles of the Government and its free institutions. He cultivates the sense of justice, and has an intense love and sympathy for the people. He shares the confidence and sympathy of the masses. He knows neither race nor rank, and has a wonderful grasp upon the spirit of our institutions and the character and motives of men. He has a keen sense of the wants and judgment of the people. He becomes a living proclamation of the declaration, "All men are created free and equal." He illustrates in his own life the dignity of labor and the nobility of the COMMON PEOPLE. He stands for true and honest men and women anywhere and everywhere, who are seeking to better their lives and their conditions.

A priceless jewel is here in the rough. God sets his seal upon him. Coming from the common people, born and reared in the humblest walks of life, God leaves him in touch with the masses to be ground, and shaped, and polished for his high and unique place of honor in the crown of American glory.



## Intellectual and Moral Equipments.

There was something remarkable in the intellectual and moral life and vigor of Abraham Lincoln. His school privileges were limited. It is asserted that altogether his school life would not more than equal one year in our public schools. We are told that when at school he studied hard and was quick to learn, and was comprehensive, as well, in his grasp of truth; and withal he had a wonderful memory. It may not be forgotten, however, that his mother was a woman of more than ordinary culture for those times. Largely she performed the office of teacher and preceptress, and in this was far more efficient than the itinerant masters. She died while the boy was young; but she lived long enough to lay deep the foundation of his moral aspirations, and the principles of his character. Nature's gifts were sealed with a mother's hand and a mother's heart. Unsullied conscience, perfect honesty, absolute truthfulness, righteous ambition, gentle selfcontrol, love of justice, consideration and respect for the rights of others, reverence for, and obligation to God; and all surcharged with good common sense. These were so carefully laid and cemented that they remained as adamant, forming the substratum of his entire life. When President he once said:—"All that I am or hope to be I owe to my sainted mother." With the foundation thus carefully laid, when other means failed, he became his own professor, and as everywhere he mastered the obstacles in his way. For lack of other means he would cipher and practice the art of composition on pieces of boards, or a



wooden shovel, with a piece of charcoal, before a spice-wood fire. Books were scarce and difficult to obtain; but such as he could secure he mastered. When called upon to do work where special lines of service were required, he took it up and mastered it. The great Declaration was his handbook, and the Bible, Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* and *Æsops Fables* were his chosen companions. In his case the itinerant preacher of those days was no small or indifferent means in his education.

Though not instructed in the schools, he was not unlearned. I hazard nothing in the statement, he was a scholar far beyond the age in which he lived and the people with whom he mingled. His art of expression and his wondrous power of speech are all attested in documents left on record, and speeches here and there in public life. From early childhood on through life he did not cease to study books, and men, the Nation's interests and the issues of the day. Senator Cullum, speaking of his educational qualifications, says:—"Lincoln was in one sense the best educated man of the country, for his mind was trained to grasp great subjects." It would be well for the student of to-day to heed the thought more carefully, that the benefit of an Academic course is more in developing the talents, and the training how to think than in the multitude of facts acquired. To illustrate Lincoln's growing breadth of culture. He was an ardent admirer of the leading poets, and was one of the best Shakespearean scholars of the land.<sup>12</sup> As to mental grasp

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<sup>12</sup> Lincoln began the study of Shakespeare while at New Salem, under one Kelso—a Shakespearean student and scholar.

and keen discernment, his thorough knowledge of human nature is in proof. There is no greater human study than man himself. The venerable Nott, long time President of Union College, New York, was once asked what were the three most essential studies needful to secure a knowledge of mankind. His answer:—"First man himself, next the Bible, next Shakespeare." Here Lincoln's knowledge was of the highest grade, and he proved himself a master of the theme. There was great truth in Dr. Cuyler's statement:—"He was graduated from the grand College of Free Labor, whose works were the Flat-boat, the Farm and Back-woods' Lawyer's office." Before he became President in 1860, Knox College, on whose campus Douglas and Lincoln measured arms in one of their great debates, conferred upon Lincoln the degree of Doctor of Laws. Later, in 1864, Princeton conferred upon him the same degree.

Want and hardship and difficulties, when bravely met, have their compensation. In the case of Lincoln, they sharpened his ambition, and his appetite for knowledge, awakened to activity his wonderful powers of mind, stirred the depths of his great soul and armed him with power almost divine. He made disappointment, difficulties and defeats his friends to spur him to greater energy, and fit him better for the ends and objects sought, and to make him worthy of the people's trust.

## Physical Strength and Courage.

The physical strength of Lincoln was phenomenal. His parents, especially his father, had a strong physical organization. Lincoln himself was an athlete of remarkable proficiency and skill. It is claimed, and with good evidence, that he never met his superior in point of physical strength. As a boy and a young man, wherever he chanced to be, he was the leader in physical sports; but he never played the bully or the braggart. It is asserted that he could lift a weight of twelve hundred pounds. "Had he lived in England, or Normandy, centuries ago," says Mr. Arnold, "he would have been the founder of some great baronial family, possibly of a royal dynasty. He could have wielded with ease the two handed sword of Guy, the great Earl of Warwick, or the battle axe of Richard of the Lion heart."<sup>13</sup> When he became angry, which was not often, his nerves were as iron and his muscles as bars of steel.

An Army officer had been discharged for misdemeanor. He had repeatedly tried to be reinstated. Finally he went to the President, even the second time, and during the interview insolently said to him:—"I see that you are fully determined not to do me justice." The President, angered, deliberate—arose, laid down his papers, took hold of him by the collar, and walked him to the door saying:—"Sir, I give you fair warning, never to show yourself in this room again. I can bear censure, but not insult."<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> Arnold, 52.

<sup>14</sup> Stowe, 58.



## Conversation and Story-Telling.

For conversation and story-telling Lincoln has had an enviable reputation;—in conversation instructive and entertaining;—in story-telling an adept, in wit, humor, sarcasm, repartee, invective, simile and illustration, he seemed almost without an equal. Myriads of stories have been attributed to him unjustly and without warrant. He is sometimes charged with telling stories coarse and indecent. This charge is not true. He had no taste for the low and vile. His stories and illustrations always had a point, and his love for the humorous was such that if a story was pointed he would sometimes give it, even if the outlines might seem quaint, homespun, and even objectionable to the prudish. In his "Six Months at the White House," F. B. Carpenter, painter of "Lincoln Reading the Emancipation Proclamation to His Cabinet," has said:—"Every foul-mouthed man in the country gave currency to the slime and filth of his own imagination by attributing it to the President. It is but simple justice to his memory that I should state, that during the entire period of my stay in Washington, after witnessing his intercourse with nearly all classes of men, embracing Governors, members of Congress, officers of the Army and intimate friends, I cannot recollect to have heard him relate a circumstance to any one of them, which would have been out of place in a ladies drawing-room." Dr. Stone, Lincoln's family physician, once said to Mr. Carpenter:—"It is the province of a physician to probe deeply the inner lives of men; and I affirm that Mr. Lincoln is the





PRESIDENT LINCOLN AND HIS CABINET.



purest hearted man with whom I ever came in contact." Mr. Seward once said to Dr. Bellows:—"Mr. Lincoln is the best man I ever knew."

Mr. Lincoln once said to Noah Brooks:—"I remember a good story when I hear it, but I never invent anything original; I am only a retail dealer."

Judge Bates, referring to Lincoln's fund of anecdotes, said:—"The character of the President's mind is such that his thoughts habitually take on the form of illustration, by which the point he wishes to enforce is inevitably brought home with a strength and clearness impossible in hours of abstract reasoning."

In story-telling Lincoln had various objects in view at different times. Ordinarily these stories were not told as jokes, or as good stories for the sake of the stories, but rather illustrative, or to sharpen the point of an argument; to answer a question, or to expose the weakness on the part of an adversary. Sometimes he told a story or read a funny article to serve as a friction saving oil in the press of overburdening tasks.—Sometimes for fun, pure and simple, as it might seem, but always with a point, in which he seemed to lose himself in the aptness of the simile or the story. No one was likely to get more enjoyment and satisfaction out of a story he might tell than Lincoln himself; and his laugh at the climax was so naturally his own, and spontaneous, that it seemed the explosion of a mine of humor which was sure to become infectious. As in the face of Lincoln, humor and pathos sometimes strangely met in the stories told

and the tasks to be accomplished. Says a recent writer:—"Had Apollo called upon him there is no doubt he would have compelled him to listen to a story of quaint human foibles—perchance designedly—before settling the affairs of some new world."<sup>15</sup>

On calling his Cabinet together to read that most important document,—the Emancipation Proclamation, to the wonder of some, he opened the meeting by suggesting the reading of one of Artemus Ward's funnygraphs. An Ohio Congressman, a personal friend, called upon Lincoln upon an important matter. Before making response Lincoln began by telling a humorous story which seemed to fit. The Congressman arose, saying:—"I did not come this morning to hear stories; it is too serious a time!" "Ashley," said Lincoln quickly, "sit down! I respect you as an earnest, sincere man; you cannot be more anxious than I have been constantly, since the beginning of the War, and I say to you that were it not for this occasional vent, I should die!"

To illustrate his power of invective, (seldom used,) repartee, sarcasm, simile, illustration, etc., a few well authenticated instances may be noted.

Joshua Speed has given us an account of an electioneering speech made by Lincoln in 1836. Lincoln's opponent was one George Forquer who had been a Whig and turned his coat and received the position of Register of the Land Office, and had his house rodged with lightning rods. Forquer began his speech by saying that the young man would have to be taken down. Lincoln responding, said:—"I am not so young in years as I am in the tricks

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<sup>15</sup> Gutzon Borglum.



and trades of a politician; but live long or die young, I would rather die now than, like the gentleman, change my politics and simultaneously with the change receive an office worth three thousand dollars a year, and then have to erect a lightning rod over my house to protect a guilty conscience from an offended God."

Some wise men from New York at one time urged him to draw away Confederate forces from Washington by naval attacks upon Southern seaports. "It reminds me," said Lincoln, "of a New Salem, Illinois, girl who was troubled with a singing in her head, for which there seemed to be no remedy; but a neighbor promised a cure, if they would make a plaster of psalm tunes and apply to her feet, and draw the singing down."

While sitting for the Proclamation Picture, one day, some newspaper attacks upon the President were referred to, when he told the following to Mr. Carpenter: "A traveler on the frontier found himself out of his reckoning one night, in an inhospitable region. A terrific thunderstorm came up, to add to his trouble. He floundered along until his horse at length gave out. The lightning afforded him the only clew to his way, but the peals of thunder were frightful. One bolt which seemed to crash the earth beneath him brought him to his knees. By no means a praying man, his petition was short and to the point,—'Oh Lord, if it is all the same to you, give us a little more light and a little less noise.'"

A man went to Lincoln with bitter denunciation of Secretary Stanton and his management of the War Department. "Go home, my friend," inter-

rupted the President, "and read the tenth verse of the 30th Chapt. of Proverbs." (Accuse not a servant to his master, lest he curse thee and thou be found guilty.)

At the time Seward and Lincoln met the rebel commissioners at Hampton Roads, February, 1865, Mr. Stephens, who was a very small man, had taken the precaution to protect his frail body with numerous coats and wraps, from the mid-winter cold. On entering the cabin of the *River Queen* he began to take off his wraps one layer after another. When Stephens had finally emerged from all, Lincoln quietly turned to Seward, saying:—"Seward, that is the largest shucking for so small a nubbin that I ever saw."

At one time Lincoln and Seward were in an ambulance on the way to a camp of the Army. Having crossed the Long Bridge the mules and the ambulance were in the almost bottomless red mud of Virginia; the driver was urging on the mules, cursing and swearing at a fearful rate, when Lincoln protruding his head, said to the driver: "Say driver, you belong to the Episcopal church, don't you?" "No, I don't belong to any church," replied the driver, "when at home I usually attend the Methodist church." "Excuse me," said Lincoln, "I thought you must belong to the Episcopal church, for you swear just like Seward and he is a church warden."

Early in the War, Ship Island, near New Orleans, was taken by Federal troops. The General in command issued a somewhat bombastic proclamation freeing the slaves. Lincoln took no notice of it.

After a time he was taken to task about it by a friend. "Well," said Lincoln, "I feel about that a good deal as a man whom I will call 'Jones,' whom I once knew, did about his wife. He was one of your meek men, and had the reputation of being badly henpecked. At last one day his wife was seen switching him out of the house. A day or two afterwards a friend met him in the street, and said: 'Jones, I have always stood up for you, as you know; but I am not going to do so any longer. Any man who will stand quietly and take a switching from his wife, deserves to be horsewhipped.' Jones looked up with a wink, patting his friend on the back. 'Now *don't*,' said he, 'why, it didn't *hurt* me any; and you've no idea what a *power of good* it did Sarah Ann.'"

Senator Wade of Ohio was a member of the War Committee. He once went to see Lincoln to demand the removal of Grant. Lincoln began in reply:—"Senator, that reminds me of a story,"—"Yes, yes!"—replied Wade, "it is with you all story, story. You are the father of every military blunder that has been made during the War. You are on your road to hell, sir! and you are not a mile off this minute." Said Lincoln: "Senator, that is just about the distance from here to the Capitol is it not?"

Lord Lyons went to Washington to announce the marriage of the Prince of Wales. He made the customary speech. The President responded, and then taking the Diplomat by the hand, (Lyons was unmarried) he said: "And now Lord Lyons, go thou and do likewise."



General Wilson gives the following: "A little time before his death, Lincoln, his wife, Wilson—then Colonel—and a lady friend, were at Ford's Theater: "Mr. Lincoln seemed to be taking but little interest in the proceedings. 'You are not taking any interest in the play,' said the Colonel. 'Oh, no,' replied Lincoln, 'I came to rest. I am hounded to death by office seekers. Here I can get a few hours relief from them.' He closed his eyes and I turned to the ladies. Suddenly I felt his heavy hand upon my shoulder, \* \* \* and with his well remembered sweet smile he said: 'Colonel, did I ever tell you the story of Grant and the circus?' No, Mr. President, I am sorry to say you never did.' 'Well, when Grant was about ten years old a circus came to Point Pleasant, Ohio, where the family resided, and the small boy asked his father for a quarter to see the circus. The old screw would not give it to him, so Ulysses crawled in under the canvas, as I used to do, for I never saw a quarter when I was a little chap. The ring master announced that any one who would ride the mule that was brought in, once around the ring without being thrown would be presented with a silver dollar. A number tried for the dollar, but all were thrown over the mule's head. Finally the ring master ordered the mule taken out of the ring, when in walked Master Grant, saying, 'I'll try that mule.' The boy mounted, holding on longer than any of the others till at length the mule succeeded in throwing the boy into his father's tan bark, for the old man was a tanner. Springing to his feet and throwing off his cap and coat, Ulysses shouted with a determined air, 'I'd



like to try that mule again.' This time he resorted to strategy. He faced to the rear, took hold of the beast's tail instead of his head, which rather demoralized the mule. The boy went round the ring and won the dollar. 'Just so,' added the President, 'Grant will hold on to Bob Lee.' Fourteen days later General Lee surrendered at Appomattox."

### **Intemperance.**

Intemperance is one of the greatest issues of our day. This question is forging itself to the front as never before. It is enlisting the earnest attention of the entire civilized world.

A few months ago the liquor interests of Illinois and elsewhere sought to shadow itself behind the death mask of Abraham Lincoln. In this old Bacchus strangely sought to mistake himself for one of the most consistent temperance men, in high position, this Nation has ever known. In this Mr. Lincoln had the precept and example of both father and mother. His father, though from earliest childhood, living in Kentucky, where whisky was exchangeable currency, never drank intoxicating liquors. Both father and mother impressed upon his young mind the evils of intemperance. In one of his debates with Stephen A. Douglas, the latter charged him with belonging to a temperance society. Lincoln replied:—"If the Judge means by this, being a temperance man, I may say, I never drink,"—meaning intoxicating liquors. In talking with a lawyer friend not more than a year before his election to the Presidency, he remarked that he had never tasted liquor in his life. "What!" said

Mr. Swett, "do you mean to say that you never tasted it?" "Yes, I never tasted it." In 1842, before the Washingtonian society in Springfield, he delivered an address on temperance, which has seldom, if ever been surpassed. In closing this address he says:—"Let us make it as unfashionable to withhold our names from the temperance pledge as for husbands to wear their wives' bonnets to church. \* \* \* The demon of intemperance ever seems to have delighted in sucking the blood of genius and of generosity. \* \* \* He ever seems to have gone forth, like the Egyptian angel of death, commissioned to slay if not the first, the fairest born of every family. \* \* \* When the victory shall be complete—when there shall be neither a slave nor a drunkard on the earth—how proud the title of that Land which may truly claim to be the birth-place and the cradle of those revolutions, that shall have ended in that victory."<sup>16</sup>

All are familiar with the incidents connected with the reception, at Mr. Lincoln's home in Springfield, of the Committee appointed at the Chicago convention, to notify him, officially of his nomination for the Presidency.<sup>17</sup>

It had previously been suggested to Mr. Lincoln that some kind of entertainment, refreshments, wine and other liquors would be needed. "But," said Mr. Lincoln, "I have no liquor in the house." "We will furnish it then," was the response. "I thank you for your kind intentions," said Mr. Lin-

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<sup>16</sup> See Letters and Addresses.—Nicolay and Hay, and elsewhere.

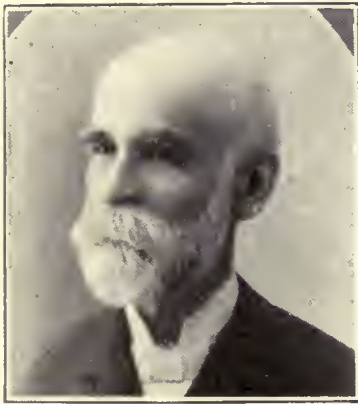
<sup>17</sup> Memorial Album. Charles Carlton Coffin, Reminiscences, (166-167.)



Talford Jeffers.



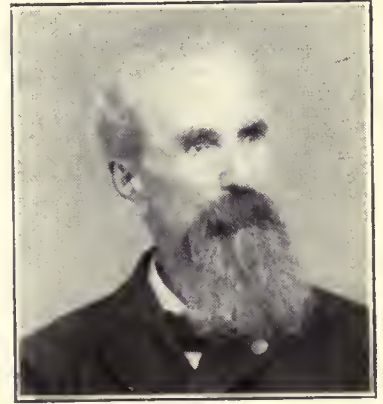
Albert Laurence.



Charles C. Abell.



Almont J. Sprague.



J. L. Wilkinson.



F. B. Johnson.



Martin D. Swan.

**Men Who Fought for the Union in the Author's Regiment.**





coln, "but I cannot permit my friends to do for me what I will not myself do."

After the formal notification and the reply, "With the utterance of the last syllable," says Mr. Coffin, "his whole manner instantly changed." A smile, like the sun shining through the rift of a passing cloud sweeping over the landscape, illumined his face, lighted up every homely feature, as he grasped the hand of Mr. Kelley. "You are a tall man, Judge. What is your height?" "Six feet three." "I beat you. I am six feet four, without my high heel boots." "I am glad," replies Mr. Kelley, "we have found a candidate for the Presidency whom we can look up to, for we have been informed that there were only '*Little Giants*' in Illinois." This opened the way for unembarrassed entertainment. "Mrs. Lincoln will be glad to see you gentlemen," said the host. "You will find her in the other room. You must be thirsty after so long a ride. You will find a pitcher of water in the Library," and added, "Gentlemen, we must pledge our mutual healths, in the most healthy beverage God ever gave to man. It is the only beverage I have ever used, or allowed in my family. It is pure Adam's ale from the spring."<sup>18</sup>

Such a standard, on the part of candidates for high office, is not common even in these days of agitation and temperance reform; but was far more rare fifty and seventy years ago.

"Lincoln never used liquor or tobacco in any form. He is said to have preached the following

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<sup>18</sup> See Dr. D. D. Thompson.—N. W. C. A., Feb. 3d, 1909, (p. 5-6-133.)

federate cause. But as a matter of fact Mrs. Lincoln was ever loyal to her husband and to the cause of the Union, notwithstanding the heart-throbs for her cherished loved ones slain. Lincoln himself had relatives on the other side; and so did many others who fought for the Union. The sickness and death of promising little Willie, too, fell as heavily upon the mother as upon the father. Surmounting it all came the tragedy of her husband's death, which at last dethroned her reason, and made the balance of her life a living death. "There is nothing in American history," says Mr. Arnold, "so unmanly, so devoid of every chivalric impulse, as the treatment of that poor, broken hearted woman, whose reason was shattered by the great tragedy of her life. One would have supposed it to be sufficient to secure the forbearance, the charitable construction, or the silence of the press, to remember that she was the widow of Abraham Lincoln. When the Duke of Burgundy was uttering his coarse and idle jests concerning Margaret of Anjou, the Earl of Oxford rebuked and silenced him by saying: "My Lord, whatever may have been the defect of my mistress, she is in distress, and almost disconsolate."<sup>20</sup>

In numberless letters and telegrams, and in countless other ways, Lincoln's love and devotion to his home and family are attested. "In his domestic life," says Bishop Simpson, a close personal friend, "Lincoln was exceedingly kind and affectionate." His deference to the wishes of his wife was habitual with him; between them there was

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<sup>20</sup> Arnold—439-440.

deep affection and the closest confidence. The mutual heart-opening of husband and wife, on the last afternoon of his life, is attractive and touching.<sup>21</sup> Miss Helen Nicolay, daughter of Lincoln's private Secretary, tells us: "The President's attitude toward his wife had something of the paternal in it, almost as though she were a child under his protection."<sup>22</sup>

In the Executive Mansion there was no place too sacred, and no time otherwise too fully occupied, for the presence of "Tad" and Willie, and in the lull of executive duties he was often their willing play-fellow; and especially so with "Tad" when Willie had gone. Attorney General Bates has left on record a memoranda touching the death of Willie:—"A fine boy of eleven years, too much idolized by his parents. The Government departments were closed on the day of his funeral—the only time perhaps that the death of a child has been so observed in the history of our country."<sup>23</sup>

The native sympathy and inborn kindness of Lincoln's nature, always manifest, and especially in his treatment of suppliants during the War, was but the outburst of his heart, the reflection of his own tender care, affection and consideration for

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<sup>21</sup> In his drive with Mrs. Lincoln, after the Cabinet meeting (Apr. 14th) in which he wished no one to accompany them, he said: "Mary we have had a hard time of it since we came to Washington, but the War is over, and with God's blessing we may hope for four years of peace and happiness, and then we will go back to Illinois and pass the rest of our lives in quiet. \* \* \* We must both be more cheerful in the future. Between the War and the loss of our darling Willie we have been very miserable."

<sup>22</sup> Personal Traits—205.

<sup>23</sup> Personal Traits—201.—The body of Willie was taken to Springfield along with that of his father.



his own wife and children;—the outflow from the fountain head of his own domestic sympathy and affection.

### Slavery.

“O thou great Wrong, that through the slow-paced years,

Didst hold thy millions fettered, and didst wield  
The scourge that drove the laborer to the field,  
And turn a stony gaze on human tears,

Thy cruel reign is o'er ;

Thy bondmen crouch no more

In terror at the menace of thine eye ;

For he who marks the bounds of guilty power,  
Long suffering, hath heard thy captive's cry,

And touched his shackles at the appointed hour,  
And lo ! they fall, and he whose limbs they galled  
Stands in his native manhood, disenthralled.

“Well was thy doom deserved ; thou didst not spare  
Life's tenderest ties, but cruelly didst part

Husband and wife, and from the mother's heart  
Didst wrest her children, deaf to shriek and prayer ;

Thy inner lair became

The haunt of guilty shame ;

The lash dropped blood, the murderer, at thy side,  
Showed his red hands, nor feared the vengeance  
due.

Thou didst sow earth with crimes, and, far and  
wide,

A harvest of uncounted miseries grew,

Until the measure of thy sins at last

Was full, and then the avenging bolt was cast !”

The death of slavery, which Bryant sings so touchingly and so forcefully, was the logical outcome of the War, as the institution itself was its fundamental cause. In that dark stretch of years, when the mandate of slavery was “rigid as the will

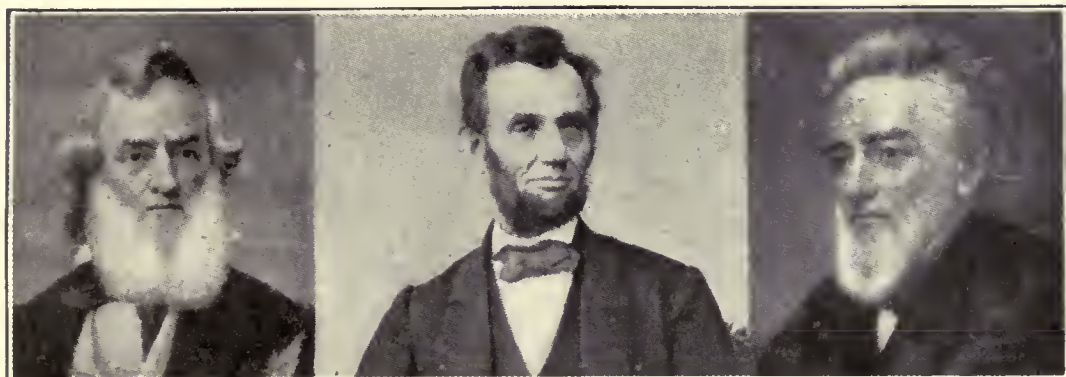




Caleb B. Smith.

Simon Cameron.

Montgomery Blair.



Gideon Welles.

A. Lincoln.

Edward Bates.



Edwin M. Stanton.

William H. Seward.

Salmon P. Chase.

MEMBERS OF LINCOLN'S FAMOUS WAR CABINET.



of Fate," there were those who could not be cowed, who shrank not from the task, or quailed before the gruesome plague of negro slavery!—to such belongs unstinted honor!—but to him—

"At whose command the manacles were burst,  
And the sad slave come forth forever free."

to him, God's master workman, must henceforth be given the chieftest honor.

Lincoln was a consistent and uncompromising opponent of slavery. This opposition was inborn and life-long, and increased as the years advanced. Both father and mother were pronounced against it. One of the chief reasons for their leaving Kentucky was the increasing inflow of planters with their slaves. A warm, personal and influential friend of the Lincolns was Jesse Head, a man of prominence, and a Methodist minister, who performed their marriage ceremony. He was free and outspoken in his talk and sermons on the subject of slavery. Dr. C. C. Graham, an old acquaintance of the Lincolns and who was present at their wedding, has left a memoranda in which he says:—"Tom Lincoln and Nancy, and Sally Bush were just steeped full of Jesse Head's notions of the wrongs of slavery, and the rights of man as explained by Thomas Jefferson and Thomas Paine."<sup>24</sup> Thus generated and quickened, this birth-right of

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<sup>24</sup>Abe Lincoln the Liberator was made in his mother's womb and father's brain and in the prayers of Sally Bush; by the talks and sermons of Jesse Head. Rev. or Judge Jesse Head, the Methodist circuit rider, assistant County Judge, printer-editor, and cabinet maker, was one of the most prominent men there (Lincoln-Hanks wedding), as he was able to own slaves, but did not on principle."—*Dr. C. C. Graham.—McClure, 1806.*



the future 'Liberator,' with proper care and subsequent culture, came to be an inheritance incorruptable and measureless in value, and whose assets to the Nation and to the world have proven to be of incalculable worth.

Lincoln was not an Abolitionist of the school of Garrison, and Phillips and John Brown. Like Dr. Lyman Beecher he did not think it best to burn down the house to get rid of the rats. He was none the less determined, however, in his anti-slavery sentiments. He has most emphatically declared:—"If slavery is not wrong, nothing is wrong!" In an address in Cincinnati, in 1859, he said:—"I think slavery is wrong, morally, and politically." In 1854, in a letter to Mr. Coddington, of the Illinois State Central Committee, he said:—"I suppose my opposition to the principles of slavery is as strong as that of any member of the Republican party."<sup>25</sup> As far back as 1839, a strange presentiment seems to have confronted him, when of the slave power he said:—"Broken by it I, too, may be, bow to it I never will. \* \* \* Without contemplating consequences, before high heaven, and in the face of the world, I swear eternal fidelity to the just cause, as I deem it, of the land of my life, my liberty, and my love." "And yet secretly," Bishop Simpson tells us, before the War was ended, "he said to more than one:—"I never shall live out the four years of my term. When the Rebellion is crushed, my work is done."<sup>26</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> You know I dislike slavery. \* \* \* I hate to see the poor creatures, hunted down and caught and taken back to their stripes and to their unrequited toil, but I bite my lips and keep quiet.—*Letter to Joshua F. Speed.*

<sup>26</sup> Life of Bishop Simpson.



The Hon. Owen Lovejoy, a radical Abolitionist, who had knelt upon the green sod that covered the grave of his murdered brother, and had there sworn eternal warfare against slavery, once said:—"I tell you Mr. Lincoln is at heart as strong an anti-slavery man as any of them, but he is compelled to feel his way. \* \* \* I say to you frankly, I believe his course is right."

To confine slavery within the limits designated in the compromise of 1820 (the Missouri Compromise), meant, as Mr. Lincoln believed, its ultimate extinction.<sup>27</sup> While he looked upon slavery as wrong, morally, socially, and politically, he regarded the Constitution as the fundamental law of the Nation, and that the rights guaranteed to slavery under the Constitution must be respected. The aim of Lincoln in the debate with Douglas was to prevent the spread of slavery into free States and Territories. In that remarkable address delivered in Springfield, in 1856, he said:—"Let us draw a cordon, so to speak, around the slave States, and the hateful institution, like a reptile poisoning itself, will perish by its own infamy. \* \* \*" He spoke in Kansas in December, 1859. In this speech he declared:—"We must not disturb slavery in States where it exists, because the Constitution, and the peace of the Country both forbid it. \* \* \* But we must, by a national policy, prevent the spread of slavery into new Territories, or free

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<sup>27</sup> I have always hated slavery, I think, as much as any Abolitionist,—have been an Old-line Whig—I have always hated it, but I have always kept quiet about it until this new era of the introduction of the Nebraska bill began. I always believed \* \* \* that it was in course of ultimate extinction. *Speech, Chicago, July 10. 1858—Addresses, 2,252.*

States, because the Constitution does not forbid us, and the general welfare does demand such prevention." And again, in the Cooper Institute Address:—"In relation to slavery, as those fathers marked it, so let it again be marked as an evil not to be extended, but to be tolerated and protected only because, and so far as, its actual presence among us make that toleration and protection a necessity."

What to do with slavery?<sup>28</sup> That was the supreme question. Was the hateful *Octopus* to reach out its slimy tentacles to the separate States until the entire Nation should be within its strangling grasp? or was some unseen, some unknown Hercules to give it battle, and strip it of its power? One or the other it must be;—so thought Lincoln. The Fates were merciful indeed, for none could see the awful *drama* just ahead, and none could divine with accuracy the outcome.—"John, if I ever get a chance to strike that institution, I'll hit it hard!!"—The echo comes floating faintly from the past! He who spake abides his time, and when that time has come, he is true to his word. He is President now! Slavery has gone to war! The Nation is in arms! The world is looking on!!!

It is interesting,—marvelous even, to trace the manner in which the Constitution of the Nation, so long the strong bulwark of defense for slavery, becomes, in the hand of a cautious, far-seeing, masterly statesman, the impregnable tower of eman-

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<sup>28</sup> Lincoln's cherished method of ridding the Nation of slavery, and the disposition of the purchased slaves, was compensated emancipation and colonization.



cipation, and the freedom of a race.<sup>29</sup> The Declaration of Independence was the announcement of liberty,—<sup>30</sup>Emancipation, with its outcome, was the

<sup>29</sup> On April 6th, 1864, an English anti-slavery orator, Mr. George Thompson, gave an address in the House of Representatives. On the following morning, Mr. Thompson in company with Rev. John Pierapon and others, called upon the President. Greeting them Mr. Lincoln said:—"Mr. Thompson, the people of Great Britain, and of the foreign government were in one great error in reference to this conflict. They seemed to think that, the moment I was President, I had the power to abolish slavery, forgetting that before I could have any power whatever, I had to take the oath to support the Constitution of the United States, and execute the laws as I found them. When the Rebellion broke out, my duty did not admit of a question. That was, first, by all strictly lawful means to endeavor to maintain the integrity of the government. I did not consider that I had a *right* to touch the 'State' institution of 'Slavery' until all other measures for restoring the Union had failed. The paramount idea of the Constitution is the preservation of the Union. \* \* \* It seems clear, then, that in the last extremity, if any local institution threatened the existence of the Union, the Executive could not hesitate as to his duty. In our case, the moment came when I felt that slavery must die that the nation might live. \* \* \*

"Many of my strongest supporters urged *Emancipation* before I thought it indispensable, and, I may say, before I thought the country was ready for it. It is my conviction that, had the proclamation been issued even six months earlier than it was, public sentiment would not have sustained it. Just so, as to the subsequent action in reference to enlisting blacks in the Border States. The step, taken sooner, could not, in my judgment, have been carried out. \* \* \* We have seen this great revolution in public sentiment slowly but surely progressing, so that when final action came, the opposition was not strong enough to defeat the purpose. I can now solemnly assert that I have a clear conscience in regard to my action on this momentous question."—*F. B. Carpenter, in Six Months In the White House.*

<sup>30</sup> (1) The first draft was written on board the steamboat returning from Harrison's Landing. July 8th, 1862.

Cabinet meeting called to lay before the members the subject matter of the Proclamation,—having previously resolved upon the step,—on July 22nd, 1862. Suggestions were made by different members of the Cabinet, Mr. Chase thought it should be stronger in reference to arming the Blacks; Mr. Blair thought it would cost the Administration the fall elections. Until Mr. Seward's objection was given the others had been anticipated and settled. Seward thought it would be considered "our

demonstration completed. On signing the Proclamation the President said to Mr. Seward:—"If my name ever gets into history, it will be for this act; my whole soul is in it."<sup>31</sup> Soon after the issue of the Proclamation, Governor Morgan of New York was in Washington. Mr. Lincoln, referring to the matter, said:—"We are a good deal like whalers

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last shriek," and should be postponed,—“While I approve the measure, I suggest, sir, that you postpone its issue, until you can give it to the country supported by military success.” “This suggestion was adopted. The second draft of the preliminary proclamation was finished at the summer residence, Soldiers Home. The Cabinet was called together on Saturday, Sept. 20th. The Proclamation was published and signed Sept. 22nd, 1862, one hundred days before the final Proclamation.”

(2) “No member of the Cabinet dissented from the policy in any conversation with me.”—*Lincoln*.

(3) “I made a solemn vow before God, that if General Lee was driven back from Pennsylvania, I would crown the result by the declaration of freedom to the slaves.”—*Lincoln to Secretary Chase*.

(4) “The South had been fairly warned, that if they did not return to their duty, I should strike at this pillar of their strength. The promise must now be kept, and I shall never recall one word.”—*Lincoln*.

(5) “If the people should, by whatever mode or means, make it an Executive duty to re-enslave such persons, another, not I, must be their instrument to perform it.” Annual Message, Dec. 6, 1864.

(6) “The Proclamation \* \* \* as an expression of the spirit of the people, and the policy of the Administration, had become both a moral and a military necessity.”—*George W. Julian*.

(7) “There have been those base enough to propose to return to slavery the black warriors of Port Hudson and Olustee, and thus win the respect of the masters they fought. Should I do so, I should deserve to be damned in time and eternity. Come what will I will keep my faith with friend and foe. \* \* \*”

—*Lincoln to Gov. Randall of Wis., Aug., 1864*.

<sup>31</sup> (1) “As affairs have turned, it is the central act of my administration, and the great event of the nineteenth century.”—*Lincoln*.

(2) “The great act of our dead President, on which his fame shall rest long after his frame shall moulder away, is that of giving freedom to a race.”—*Bishop Simpson*.

(3) “\* \* \* The most sublime moral event in our history.”—*F. B. Carpenter*.



who have been long on a chase. At last we have got our harpoon fairly into the monster; but we must now look how we steer or with one *flop* of his tail, he will send us all into eternity."

Those years, so full of tragedy and of history, suggest a Moses, selected of God and chosen by the people, to lead a nation from bondage to liberty!—and as though on Nebo's mountain, overlooking the Promised Land,—“On being notified that the resolution in Congress, abolishing slavery had passed, Mr. Lincoln, in a speech for the occasion, said:—*‘The job is finished. I cannot but congratulate all present, myself, the country, and the whole world, on this great moral victory.’*”

### Reconstruction.<sup>32</sup>

The years of reconstruction, following the War, was, and must always remain one of the great and important periods in the Nation's history. Whether the best was done that could have been done by the Government during that pivotal period is not easy to determine. Whether Lincoln could have done better had he lived to direct, is uncertain. To question minutely is to reckon without the host. A good deal of speculation has been had as to what would have been done had he lived. (Parenthet-

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<sup>32</sup> It is not our aim here to consider reconstruction in its entirety as it stands in the history of our Nation. It is not in place here to review President Johnson's evolution on reconstruction, from wholesale punishment to wholesale pardon. Nor yet the bitter and long drawn out controversy in Congress, and the consequent manifested spirit in the South; but Lincoln's thought and attitude on reconstruction is here sought, which in its negative and positive characteristics must embrace an investigation of views, rightfully or wrongfully ascribed to him.

ically, do we bear in mind that God who could provide a leader for the years of War was not powerless in garnering the fruits of victory?) At the time of Lincoln's death, outside of general principles, to determine the work of reconstruction was much like determining what the War was to be before it began. There were undetermined movements, unforeseen perplexities, and unexpected obstacles which had to be met. It had to deal with human nature not willing always to brook control. It involved the rights and the authority of the National Government, on the part of the North, and the giving up on the part of the South the cherished idea of the mere Confederation of States, and the institution of Negro slavery, slavery in substance as well as in form, together with the spirit and the prejudices these had engendered. It involved the moral, social and political transformation of the South, in so far as National integrity, human liberty, and the rights of American citizenship were represented by Abraham Lincoln, and declared valid at Appomattox, and this as over-against States' sovereignty and the accompanying propaganda represented by Jefferson Davis, which ran counter to the social, moral and political progress of the age. It involved the consideration for and the rights of those in the South, who, under difficulties most trying, had remained true and loyal to the Union. It involved the rights and privileges of four millions of bondmen, just out from centuries of unrequited toil, and their rightful avenues to citizenship. It involved as well a new condition of things for former masters, and

an adjustment to untried conditions. From a human standpoint these things were, at the best, impossible without friction and discomfort somewhere. In the hazy outlook upon the future, while the War was still in progress, some of these matters were being considered; reconstruction, in fact, had its full share of the President's thought. Lincoln had been noting the outlines and examining some of its intricacies.

After Lincoln's death a persistent effort was made during the reconstruction period, and later, to show that his plan of reconstruction would have been practically to reinstall the dominance of the South, and thus—(from the Southern outlook or viewpoint) have eliminated the hardships accruing, and the crimes committed;—or as Mr. Gorham puts it:—"An effort to make it appear that Mr. Lincoln favored a loose policy, under which those so lately under arms against the Government would be certain of an advantage over those who had sustained it." To think thus of Lincoln, when National integrity had been asserted and its validity won in a four years war, is to confess to ignorance of his real character and manhood.

Reconstruction was not the settlement of a children's quarrel. Fundamental truths and lasting principles were involved. No one realized the importance of things ahead, and difficulties involved, more keenly than did President Lincoln.

When the War was practically over, Mr. Stanton offered his resignation as Secretary of War. Lincoln refused to accept it, saying:—"Stanton, you cannot go. Reconstruction is more difficult than



construction or destruction. You have been our main reliance; you must help us through the final act. The bag is full. It must be tied and tied securely. Some knots slip; yours do not. You understand the situation better than anybody else. It is my wish and the country's wish that you remain."<sup>33</sup>

It is idle, perhaps, for us to presume too much what Lincoln would have done. We may remember, however, that though consummated nominally, but not in spirit altogether, some twelve years after his death he had much to do with *reconstruction*; for his thoughts, his works and his plans entered into it. Enough is known, at least, to give general tenor to his probable course of action. In 1866, Charles A. Dana, for two years Asst. Secy. of War, wrote a letter to Mr. Arnold in which he said:—"At the time of Mr. Lincoln's death, a printed paper was under consideration in the Cabinet, providing ways and means for restoring state government in Virginia. In that paper it was stated that all loyal men, *white or black*, were to be called upon to vote in holding a state convention, while all rebels were to be excluded. I could not affirm that Mr. Lincoln had definitely adopted that policy with respect to black suffrage, but that I knew that his mind was tending to it, and I was morally certain he would have finally adhered to it."<sup>34</sup> In a letter to General Wadsworth before the Wilderness campaign, Mr. Lincoln said:—"You desire to know, in the event of our complete success in the field, the same being followed by a loyal and cheerful submission

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<sup>33</sup> Flower's Stanton, 310-312;—Rothchild, 286.

<sup>34</sup> See Arnold's Lincoln, 416.







on the part of the South, if universal amnesty should not be accompanied with universal suffrage? Now since you know my private inclinations as to what terms should be granted to the South in the contingency mentioned, I will here add, that if our success should thus be realized, followed by such desired results, I cannot see if universal amnesty is granted, how, under the circumstances, I can avoid exacting universal suffrage, or at least suffrage on the basis of intelligence and military service.

“How to better the condition of the colored race has long been a study which attracted my serious attention; hence I think I am clear and decided as to what course I shall pursue, regarding it as a religious duty, as the Nation’s guardian of these people who have so heroically vindicated that manhood on the battlefield, where, in assisting to save the life of the Republic, they have demonstrated in blood their right to the ballot, which is but the humane protection of the flag they have so fearlessly defended.”<sup>35</sup>

Mr. Lincoln’s idea of reconstruction was based upon the assumption that the Rebellion had destroyed the State governments of States in rebellion, but not the States themselves. That the Constitution of the United States requires that every State be guaranteed a republican form of Government, and that to make this guarantee good, United States governments must needs be established to take the place of those State governments operating under the Confederacy. Reconstruction must

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<sup>35</sup> Carpenter, *Six Months in the White House*, pp. 270-271.

begin at the foundation.—“No man has the authority to give up the rebellion for any other man. We must simply begin with and mold from disorganized and discordant elements.” Existing governments in rebellious States must have no place in the reconstructed State governments. He thought it unwise to have an inflexible rule for all the States. He did not think it best to discourage the loyal citizens of Louisiana and Arkansas who had framed legal State governments in accord with the proclamation of December, 1863.<sup>36</sup> An oath test was prescribed for those who might be eligible to participate in the formation of such government; those, too, who should be debarred from taking part in the formation of the new government. Executive pardon was to be extended to those otherwise eligible, and who met the prescribed requirements:—“But no man in the rebel States had any right to vote at that time until he had secured the Presidential pardon by taking the required oath.” And further he says:—“An attempt to guarantee and protect a revived State government constructed, in whole, or in preponderating part, from the very element against whose hostility and violence it is to be protected, is simply absurd.” In his address three days before his death, referring to the proclamation, December, 1863, he said:—“I distinctly stated that this is not the only plan which might possibly be acceptable.”

The amnesty proclamation issued Dec. 8th, 1863,<sup>37</sup> that of July, 1864, the message of February 11th, 1865, and his last public address, three days

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<sup>36</sup> See Lincoln's Address, April 11th, 1865.

<sup>37</sup> Letters and ad's., Vol. 12, 442-444.

before his death, <sup>38</sup> all abound in reconstruction ideas, and are worthy of careful perusal, as also various other documents, directly and indirectly referring to this subject.

On the 3d of February, 1865, at Hampton Roads, occurred one of the famous episodes of the War.<sup>39</sup> Mr. Seward bore the following instructions to the Confederate commissioners appointed by Mr. Davis:—"You will make known to them that three things are indispensable, to-wit: first, the restoration of the Nation's authority throughout all the States; second, no receding by the Executive of the United States on the slavery question from the position assumed thereon in the last annual message to Congress, and in preceding documents; third, no cessation of hostilities short of the end of the War, and the disbanding of all forces hostile to the Government."<sup>40</sup>

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<sup>38</sup> Letters and addresses, Vol. 2, 672.

<sup>39</sup> The Hampton Roads conference was projected by Francis P. Blair, Sr. Mr. Blair procured a pass from the President to go to Richmond and return. He went, however, on his own initiative and responsibility, and without any authority to act or speak for the President. He secured a letter from Mr. Davis, expressing a willingness and desire for a conference looking towards relations of peace. In the answer by the President, "The explicit condition prescribed by Mr. Lincoln's note, sent through Mr. Blair, was that he would only receive an agent sent him with the view of securing peace to the people of *our common country!*" Mr. Davis substituted—*the two countries* in place of *our common country*, and appointed commissioners, though he fully understood Lincoln's ultimatum. (Nicolay & Hay, Vol. 10, 111-112). Mr. Benjamin, the rebel Secretary of State advised Davis to say,—“Upon the subject to which it relates,” but “he could not forego masquerading as a champion,” insisted on his own phraseology, appointed the commissioners, and with absurd duplicity, and sent them on terms rejected beforehand by Mr. Lincoln.—Nicolay & Hay, Vol. 10, 108-112. See Addresses, Vol. 2, 630-652.

<sup>40</sup> Nicolay & Hay, Vol. 10, 115.



The President joined Mr. Seward at Fortress Monroe. The four hours' conference between them and the Confederate commissioners—Messrs. Stevens, Hunter and Campbell—on the *River Queen*, disclosed anew the frank, honest and kindly heart of the President towards the erring South; but it demonstrated, as well, his uncompromising attitude as to official duties and personal dignity. No agreement could be entered into which might, in any way, recognize the States then in arms against the National Government, as a separate power, or what would tend to lessen the power of that Government. No terms could be entertained or considered which would violate in the least the great cardinal principles of the Administration.

Military, Judicial and Executive powers were sharply delineated. In harmony with the other branches of authority, together with right and justice, the Executive power, in case of reconciliation, would be administered with the utmost liberality.

"In stating a single condition of peace," said Mr. Lincoln, "I mean simply to say that the War will cease on the part of the Government whenever it shall have ceased on the part of those who began it."

So far as the Emancipation Proclamation was a judicial question, he would leave to the courts to decide; <sup>41</sup> but so far as he was concerned, "he would never change or modify the terms of the Proclamation in the slightest particular." An

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<sup>41</sup>Reverdy Johnson pronounced the act judicially correct.

armistice, in any form, was absolutely refused. West Virginia would remain a separate State.<sup>42</sup>

His active, urgent and unyielding efforts for a Constitutional amendment abolishing slavery throughout the Union was rewarded by an act of Congress, passed three days before the Hampton

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<sup>42</sup> Nicolay & Hay, Vol. 10, 118-131.

The Conference was informal. No memorandum was made at the time. No detailed report was given by Mr. Lincoln or Mr. Seward. The President reported to Congress the methods and means and conditions and correspondence by which the conference was brought about, together with the vital questions considered at the Conference. On their return to Richmond, the rebel commissioners gave a brief account, written from memory, to Mr. Davis. Davis sent a message, embracing this report, to the Confederate Congress, with bitter and inflammatory statements, showing his chagrin and animosity. In his "War between the States," Mr. Stephens writes quite fully on the Hampton Roads Conference and the discussions entered into, as also the result of the outcome at Richmond. A valuable and instructive article, from the pen of Hon. A. S. Colyar of Knoxville, Tenn., at the time of the Conference a member of the Confederate Congress, appeared in the Self Culture Magazine for May, 1900; also an article of value in the Forum for March, 1900. From these and other reliable sources we are able to secure a good idea of the Conference itself and its effect upon the South. An inside view of the hopelessness of General Lee and other leaders and other authorities is open to us. It appears that Hampton Roads Commissioners had come to the conclusion that independence was impossible for them, and that the South should secure the best terms possible for settlement and that the Confederate Congress, the lower house especially were practically of the same opinion. The authorities at Richmond generally were disheartened at the failure of the Conference. Mr. Davis was chagrined and exasperated. He was for continuing the War. His bitterness, defiance and treasonable spirit were at their height. His bellicose bravado found utterance in most inflammatory speeches. Lincoln was denounced in the bitterest of terms, and titled as "His Majesty Abraham the First."

Upon the action and course taken by Mr. Davis, Mr. Stevens gave up the Confederate cause as hopeless, withdrew from Richmond, abandoned the Rebellion and went into retirement. His signature to the brief public report of the commissioners stating the result of the Hampton Roads Conference was his last participation in the ill-starred enterprise."



Roads conference. Of this the Commissioners were informed.

On the President's persistent refusal, as a matter of executive authority, or right, to enter into any agreement upon reconstruction, or other like matters, against rightful authority, with parties in arms against the Government, Mr. Hunter referred to such like instances between Charles I. of England and those in arms against him. Mr. Lincoln replied:—"I do not profess to be posted in history. On all such matters I will turn you over to Seward. All I distinctly remember about the case of Charles the I. is that he lost his head."

In predicting what Lincoln's plan of reconstruction would have been, much stress has sometimes been laid upon the pronouncement—*These States were never out of the Union*—and constructing therefrom an easy, tolerant plan—presumably Lincoln's—by which the so-called seceded States might be restored, practically by a way of their own choosing. The following from the Christian Advocate of New York<sup>43</sup> is in the point:—"At the beginning of the reconstruction period immediately following the Civil War there was a disposition to wheel the seceded States back into the Union under any pretext, in order to secure the Southern vote for Andrew Johnson in the election of 1868. Even William H. Seward was infected with the desire. 'How many States do we want on the flag?' he asked. 'Shall we not have them all?' 'Yes,' replied James Russell Lowell, 'as many *fixed* stars as you please, but no more *shooting* ones.'"

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<sup>43</sup> July 25, 1912.



Lincoln was no stickler for technicalities, only that just and proper ends might be reached.

In the matter of adjusting reconstruction according to the status of the States, Lincoln is his own best interpreter. In his last public address, April 11th, 1865, he says:—"We all agree that the seceded States, so-called, are out of their proper relation with the Union, and that the sole object of the Government, civil and military, in regard to those States is again to get them into that practical proper relation. I believe that it is not only possible, but in fact easier, to do this without deciding, or even considering whether these States have ever been out of the Union, than with it. \* \* \* Finding themselves safely at home it would be utterly immaterial whether they have ever been abroad. Let us all join in doing the acts necessary to restore the proper practical relations between these States and the Union, and each forever after innocently indulge his own opinion whether in doing the acts he brought the States from without into the Union, or only gave them proper assistance, they never having been out of it."

It is interesting and instructive to consider his comments on and approval of the Louisiana reconstruction act. The free-State constitution adopted in Louisiana gave benefit of public schools equally to black and white, and empowered the Legislature to confer the franchise on the colored man.<sup>44</sup>

It might be instructive for those thinking Lincoln would have been loose in his methods to remember that in 1866 the Constitution of Louisiana, adopted

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<sup>44</sup>State Papers, 674.

in 1869 in accord with Lincoln's proclamation of December, 1863, was pronounced fraudulent by those assuming power under Johnson.

Gleaning thus Reconstruction ideas of Lincoln it is safe to note the following:

The Union must be accepted, not as a confederation of independent States, but States inseparably united under one general Government whose laws and Constitution are supreme.—Rebel State governments regarded as public enemies, not to be tolerated, but to give place to those established in accord with the laws and Constitution of the National Government. Until such rule becomes operative, provisional governments should be established, and Courts provided for "all such parts of insurgent States and Territories as may be under control of the Government, whether by voluntary return to its allegiance and order, or by the power of our armies." Martial law to govern until other and proper government be provided.

Freedom for the colored race, with guarantees of citizenship and proper elective franchise.

Loyalty and fidelity to the National Government and the Constitution, including the Emancipation Proclamation and the amendment prohibiting slavery. Pardon and amnesty to follow sincere penitence, as shown by satisfactory evidence. In his own words: "When a man is sincerely penitent for his misdeeds and gives satisfactory evidence of it he can safely be pardoned."

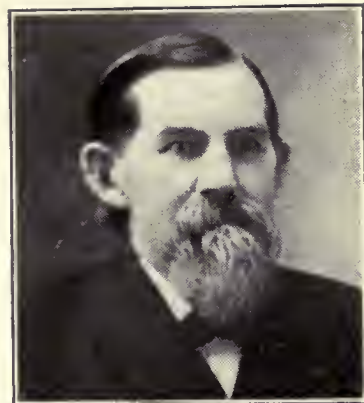
It was not in the heart of Lincoln to retaliate, to confiscate or to make desolate unless the exigencies of the case required it. The spirit here manifest is mirrored in the second Inaugural.



W. W. Perry.



Frank J. Harwood.



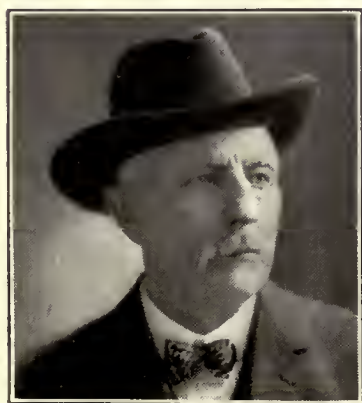
R. N. Rasmussen.



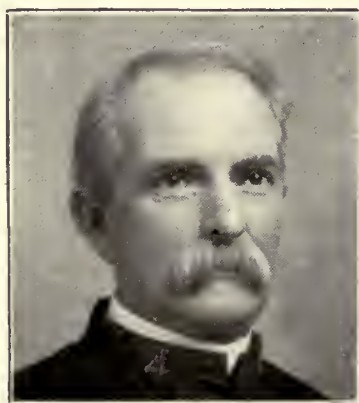
E. Underhill.



Dr. J. G. Vaughan.



Louis Jacquot.



L. B. Allan.



Frank Harrington.

**To the Advice and Assistance of These Men the Author  
Wished to Offer His Thanks.**





At the shrine of Lincoln, with nearly fifty years stretching out between us and the War, marvelous progress in the Nation, and strange events in political history confront us. Time has somewhat dimmed the memory. The rancor of those crimson years of war has lost its keenness. The dire perplexities of the reconstruction years were now forgotten, save in the archives of our history, but for the spirit of the ante-bellum South, which sometimes reasserts itself and brings to life and recollection what the Nation had to do to protect the loyal and the innocent, and to keep its plighted faith with a race of Freedmen; and also, in its long drawn out attainment, deplorable but true, recall to mind unprincipled and tactless men who sometimes found place among officials appointed for that delicate, difficult and momentous work. But to forget that all, or the greater part of Federal officials in *Reconstruction* times were not men of graft and greed;—that “Carpet-baggers”<sup>45</sup> were

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<sup>45</sup>“How maligned has been that grandest word of the age—carpet-bagger. How Northern pen and tongue have joined with Southern tongue and pen in abusing these martyrs of to-day, chosen of God and precious. That word means your best civilization, carried by more courageous souls than any who bore arms in the same field. \* \* \* See your soldiers marching homeward, and resting on his laurels—deservedly resting on deserved laurels. What shall lift up that despoiled land? That redemption must come from without. \* \* \* See that vessel loading in this city for Hilton Head as soon as Beaufort is captured. See the applicants for passage as teachers. See the delicate, the youthful men, the ministers and teachers crowding the office and clamoring to go for nothing, or the merest pittance. See aid societies organizing in New York, Boston, Chicago and elsewhere. See the host pouring in almost as numerous as the host that has left. Bearing their carpet-bags, as they their knapsacks. They plant schools, they build churches. \* \* \* They are assailed with insult and revolver; fair maidens insulted with every damning epithet, yet serenely braving all for Christ and his poor children. O ye ribald revilers

It is safe, however, to believe that Lincoln would have met the requirements of the advancing situation as it developed.

Lincoln's plan of reconstruction, it is certain, did not contemplate that unrepentant rebels should be placed in power and control, or that such should help to frame the laws and decide the ways and means by which the wayward States might claim full fellowship in the Nation's life and work. It did not contemplate nursing treason in the minds and hearts of growing generations. It did not contemplate such like acts as the rearing of a monument of honor to the monster fiend of Andersonville, whose conviction of untold murders of Union soldiers sent him to the felon's death.<sup>47</sup> It did not contemplate making sacred the flag and the emblems of secession, and the opening for them and their adoration the hall of National honor. It did not contemplate making a farcè of Donaldson, and Shiloh, and Vicksburg, and Chattanooga, and Atlanta, of Bull Run, and Antietam, and Fredericksburg, and the Wilderness, of Cold Harbor, of Petersburg, and Appomattox; of Hampton Roads, and Fort Fisher, and Mobile Bay. It did not contemplate falsifying history,<sup>48</sup> and making mockery of the tomb-covered

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<sup>47</sup> See Tragedy of Andersonville, etc.

<sup>48</sup> There are women authors in the South whose writings are attractive, readable, and in ways valuable. women like Myrtle L. Avey of Virginia and Mary Helm of Kentucky, but whose pen-picturing of reconstruction in the South, and the fancifully drawn ideas of *Lincoln-would-have-been-attitude-concerning-it-had-he-lived*, has no rightful place in authentic history. This picturing sometimes reminds one of a wayward child and an overindulgent parent.

The author once knew a father who by thrift and care and the aid of wife and children had secured a substantial fortune. One of the boys was wayward and had



field of Gettysburg, and the heaven-inspired words of the consecration:—"The mystic chord of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriotic grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."

It did contemplate, rather, the "Olive Branch," not as a compromise but as a token of ratified victory of the Union, of enduring peace and of brotherhood, exemplified, as it were, at Appomattox. It contemplated lasting honor to patriots who gave themselves to save the Union. It contemplated that the South-land should be 'done forever

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caused the parents and the balance of the family no little expense and trouble, but all obstacles were surmounted and the father succeeded. \* \* \* The wayward child came to want and was in distress. The father-heart went out to the son. He was invited back to take his place in the home with the sole conditions of parental and filial allegiance. The boy was head-strong and put on an air of injured innocence. He played upon the father's sympathy, and suggested and even urged that he of all the family was the one best fitted to manage the estate according to his liking. The father was persuaded. Without bonds, or guaranty, or legal provisions for the rights and the care of others in the family, the transfer was made, though marks of waywardness were still in evidence to the casual observer.—THE OUT-COME—The wayward boy repentant only in the seeming "or in spots," or restimulated to former spirit by a stubborn disloyal wife;—the parents and other members of the family were turned adrift with what the reinstated boy and his companion might choose to give them.

To think thus of Lincoln, successful in saving a Nation, for whose integrity and safety he had risked all, is to misunderstand the man who paralleled his mercy and tender-heartedness with commonsense integrity, judgment and honor. He had the legal acumen, to demand bonds and legal guarantees of the wayward South before turning over to her the National inheritance. These bonds and guarantees he did demand; and there is no evidence that the strings of his sympathetic heart could have been so played upon that he would have done otherwise had he lived.

with secession;—that the children of Southern veterans, and the children's children, forever on, should keep the pledge their fathers made, and swear anew devotion and allegiance to the old Flag of the Nation. It contemplated the spirit of Watterson and Gordon and Joseph Wheeler and Henry Grady, and a host of others, who pledged anew the loyalty of the South, and swore lasting allegiance to the Stars and Stripes, and fealty to the Union.

Let the memory of those dreadful years of carnage;—let the graves of more than a million heroes, who, with no uncertain aim, marched to battle;—let Confederate veterans, who furled forever the ensign of Secession, and then, with loyalty as undying as our own, swore fealty and allegiance to the Nation and its Flag;—let the intelligence of the South which repudiates the antiquated order of things in Government;<sup>49</sup>— let the crimes of

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<sup>49</sup>The South is becoming more tolerant of a free discussion of its past and present policies. \* \* \* This new spirit of liberality towards opposing views when expressed with sincerity and befitting decorum is perhaps the greatest incipient triumph of the twentieth century South. \* \* \* We have reached the conclusion that calm history will not justify, however much it may explain, the secessionist movement of the sixties.—*Prof. E. M. Banks, University of Florida.*

On the fall of Richmond, Juda P. Benjamin, Davis' Secretary of State, went to England. When Davis was running away, Lincoln was asked, what course he (Lincoln) would likely take should Davis be caught. The case reminded him of a story;—"There was a boy in Springfield who saved up his money and bought a coon, which after the novelty wore off became a great nuisance. He was one day leading him through the streets and had his hands full to keep clear of the little vixen, who had torn the clothes half off him. At last he sat down on the curb-stone completely fagged out. A man passing by was stopped by the lad's disconsolate appearance, and asked what was the matter. 'O,' was the reply, 'this



coon is such a trouble to me;' 'Why don't you get rid of him then?' said the gentleman. 'Hush!' said the boy; 'don't you see he's gnawing his rope off? I am going to let him do it, and then I'll go home and tell the folks *he got away from me!*' "

In the afternoon of the day on which Mr. Lincoln was murdered, Charles A. Dana, Assistant Secretary of War, had received a telegram from the Provost Marshall of Portland, Maine, that Jacob Thompson was to be in that city that night, and to leave for Liverpool. Mr. Dana took the dispatch to the President, after having notified Stanton, and asked for orders. "What does Stanton say?" said Mr. Lincoln. "Arrest him!" was the reply. "Well," continued the President, "I rather guess not. When we have an elephant on hand, and he wants to run away, better let him run."—*Charles A. Dana; Reminiscences, 375-376.*

A prominent lawyer, a friend of mine, once said to me: "It is said that at the Conference between Lincoln, Seward, and the rebel commissioners near Fortress Monroe, that 'Lincoln took a blank sheet of paper and wrote at the top UNION, then handed it to Stephens, saying: 'You may write underneath whatever terms you choose, not conflicting with that, and I will sign it.' Is that true, did Lincoln do that?' My reply was, "No, I think not. It is like many of the stories attributed to Lincoln, somebody's imagination."

For this story, I am sure there is no substantial evidence, or warrant in fact. On the contrary what we can glean from that conference is irreconcilable with anything of the kind.

Presumably, and emphatically, it would have been contrary to Lincoln's way of doing things. There was, besides too great importance pending upon that Conference, and there is nothing to corroborate it.

At the opening of the Conference it was decided that there should be no notes, or record of the meeting taken.

While an undivided Union was an absolute requirement, there were other requirements held as indispensable, and so named in the President's instructions to Mr. Seward.

The communication to Congress a week and more later bear no trace of such a thought, or incident. On the other hand there is strong contradictory evidence. Some ten years ago, Senator Tillman in an address in the Senate referred to this historic interview at Hampton Roads, and alleged the occurrence of the incident noted. Senator Vest of Missouri, the only surviving Confederate Senator, in answer, said: "John H. Regan of Texas, the only living member of Davis' Cabinet, had denied the statement, and that he, Mr. Vest, knew, though not present at the Conference, that the incident was without the slightest foundation, for he had heard the report of Mr. Stephens and Mr. Hunter from their own lips and the details of the Conference."



Wirz and Jacob Thompson, and Jefferson Davis, who died "without a country," because he would not take the oath, but left his legacy to the childhood and the women of the South, whom he charged to redeem Secession, and to rock anew its cradle;—let the meaning of the War, with its fearful warning and its victory, come back to us from the graves of Lovejoy, and Crittenden, and Douglas, and Logan, and Farragut, and Sherman, and Seward, and Grant, and Stanton, and a host of others;—let the spirit of our martyr chieftain, whose life and work and character are the Nation's treasure, who was the unyielding champion of National integrity, who was in harmony with the age and interests of an advancing civilization, and the true course of political and social progress;—let these confront the sycophant and the flattering eulogist, who would turn back the dial of history, discredit the Nation's victory, and hush to silence the patriot who objects to maudling sympathy for the "*Lost Cause*," and its worshiping adherents!!

### **Religious Life and Character.**

Lincoln was a believer in the Christian Religion, and died in the intelligent acceptance of a personal Saviour. This assertion is made with sufficient evidence in proof, and in the face of claims which have been made that he was sceptical, a Free-thinker, a Deist and even an Atheist.

That there were times in the life of Lincoln when he doubted we do not care to question. In this he probably had the experience of thousands of others, and that too without permanent detriment to his religious character. A successful candidate for the



ISAAC STEPHENSON.  
United States Senator of Wisconsin.





Presidency of one of our Colleges was charged with some kind of religious heresy. The writer knew the man intimately, had been his roommate for two years, during our Theological studies, and was quite aware of the shallowness of such accusation. One of the College trustees questioned the accuser:—"Doctor, did you never doubt?" "I never had a doubt in my life," was the reply. "I pity you then most sincerely," said the official. Most men with keen, logical minds, want reasonable and substantial foundation for their conclusions, and not unfrequently are compelled to stop and doubt on the way. "There lives more faith in honest doubt," says Tennyson, "believe me, than in half the creeds." The young man Lincoln came in contact with books,<sup>50</sup> and men, and things in nature, mysterious providences of God, and his own inner thoughts, which caused him to stop and question and doubt. But we may not forget, Thomas doubted and refused to believe without satisfactory evidence. Paul doubted, even to madness, as he himself declares. But he tells us how he lost his doubts, and came to recognize himself as a chosen vessel of the Master, whose followers he was on his way to persecute. Others, in the early centuries, doubted, who afterwards tested their faith in horrid death struggles in Roman amphitheaters. Thousands, down through the centuries, have doubted, but who, with doubts dispelled, have proven themselves men and women indeed of God. Some of you have doubted, but in spite of things you could not understand and the subterfuge of

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<sup>50</sup> Meth. Quart. Rev., Jan.-Feb., 1907, pp. 103-104.  
See Bishop Simpson's address.

false profession and mere pretense, perhaps, you became anchored, at last, to the Eternal Rock, Christ Jesus.

From earliest childhood to his majority, Lincoln was in the limelight of the best possible Christian instruction—a Christian home and a devout and intelligent Christian mother. Late in life he said:—“All that I am or hope to be I owe to my angel mother—blessings on her head.”<sup>51</sup> After he became President, speaking of his mother, he said:—“I remember her prayers, and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life.”<sup>52</sup> His step-mother was greatly attached to him, and spared no pains in her care for his religious training, and character upbuilding. This love and care of a mother were duly reciprocated in lasting filial regard and affection.<sup>53</sup>

From childhood on he was a reader and a student of the Bible. Says Mr. Arnold, a life-long friend of Mr. Lincoln:—“I never yet have seen the man more familiar with the Bible than Abraham Lincoln. At the Executive Mansion, the early morning hour, while others were at rest, was spent in prayer and Bible reading.”<sup>54</sup> Says Dr. Holland:—“I can never think of that toil-worn man, rising long before his household and spending an hour with his Maker and his Bible, without tears. \* \* \* Aye, what tears, what prayers, what aspirations, what lamentations, what struggles have been witnessed by the four walls of that quiet room! There day after day while we have been sleeping has he

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<sup>51</sup> D. D. Thompson, N. W. C. A., Feb. 3, 1908, p. 5, 133.

<sup>52</sup> D. D. Thompson, N. W. C. A., Feb. 3, 1908, p. 5, 133.

<sup>53</sup> M. J. Evan Jones—Lincoln—Stanton—Grant, p. 3.

<sup>54</sup> Arnold's Album.

knelt and prayed for us, prayed for the country, prayed for wisdom and guidance, prayed for strength for his great mission. \* \* \* The man who was so humble and so brotherly among men was bowed in filial humility before God. \* \* \* A praying President! A praying statesman! A praying Commander-in-Chief of the armies and the navies! Our foremost man, our noblest dignitary, kneeling, a simple hearted child before his heavenly Father! He was a consecrated man—consecrated to his country and his God.”<sup>55</sup>

Bishop Simpson, and Bishop Ames whom he had known before the War, were among his closest friends and counselors, and often, at his invitation at the White House, they bowed with him in prayer. His confidence in God and in the efficacy of prayer, and his individual consecration to God, are well attested in the account he gives to General Sickles, at the hospital, after the battle of Gettysburg.<sup>56</sup>

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<sup>55</sup>Orations, Vol. 19, 8079.

*Literary Digest*, April 10, 1895.

<sup>56</sup>A member of General Sickles's staff, General Rusling was called to see him, (Sickles,) and while there Mr. Lincoln called, with his son Tad. We let General J. R. Rusling tell the story in brief:

“He (Mr. Lincoln) greeted Sickles very heartily and kindly, of course, and complimented him on his stout fight at Gettysburg, \* \* \* but Sickles was dubious and diplomatic, as became so astute a man. \* \* \* Presently, General Sickles turned to him, and asked what he thought during the Gettysburg campaign, and whether he was not anxious about it?

“Mr. Lincoln gravely replied, no, he was not; that some of his Cabinet and many others in Washington were, but that he himself had no fears. General Sickles inquired how this was, and seemed curious about it. Mr. Lincoln hesitated, but finally replied: ‘Well, I will tell you how it was. In the pinch of your campaign up there, when everybody seemed panic-stricken, and nobody could tell what was going to happen, oppressed by the gravity



The Emancipation Proclamation was born in prayer, and in consultation with such men as Bishop Simpson; and its execution was in fulfillment of a promise made to God in prayer.<sup>57</sup>

Our highest, our foremost man was not too great to ask advice of others, nor was he too small to ask counsel of the King of kings.

"Lincoln was a man of strong religious convictions," says Mr. McCulloch, "but he cared nothing for dogmas of churches, and had but little respect for their creeds."<sup>58</sup> Had some of us lived seventy

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of our affairs I went into my room one day and locked the door, and got down on my knees before Almighty God, and prayed to him mightily for victory at Gettysburg. I told him this was his war, and our cause his cause. \* \* \* And I then and there made a solemn vow to Almighty God that if he would stand by our boys at Gettysburg I would stand by Him. And He *did*, and I *will*. And after that (I don't know how it was and I can't explain it) but soon a sweet comfort crept into my soul that things would go all right at Gettysburg, and that is why I had no fears about you.' He said this solemnly and pathetically, as if from the very depths of his heart, and both Sickles and I were deeply touched by his manner."—*Gen'l James R. Rustling*.

Of course, I do not give his exact words, but very nearly his words, and his ideas precisely.

<sup>57</sup> See Maj. E. A. Jones, p. 48; Raymond's Life and State Papers, p. 765.

<sup>58</sup> Hugh McCulloch, Comptroller of Currency, afterward Sec'y Treasury under Lincoln.

"The church (in Springfield) was filled that morning. It was a good-sized church, but on that day all the seats were filled. I had chosen for my text the words: 'Ye must be born again,' and during the course of my sermon I laid particular stress on the word 'must.' Mr. Lincoln came into the church after the services had commenced. \* \* \* I noticed that Mr. Lincoln appeared to be deeply interested in the sermon. A few days after that Sunday Mr. Lincoln called on me and informed me that he had been greatly impressed with my remarks on Sunday and that he had come to talk with me further on the matter. I invited him in, and my wife and I talked and prayed with him for hours. Now, I have seen many persons converted; I have seen hundreds brought to Christ, and if ever a person was converted, Abraham Lincoln was converted that night in my house. His wife

years ago, or even less, when churches were battling with each other over non-essentials of their creeds, and seemed to care far more for the letter than the spirit of the Gospel, we might have looked as Lincoln did upon non-essential dogmas.

Recent evidence comes to us, which is beyond all question, that years before the War, even in his young manhood, Lincoln was a converted man, and that he recognized the fact. This is the keystone long lost to sight, but which was thought must be somewhere buried in the relics of the years. It completes the symmetry of a life inexplicable without it.<sup>59</sup>

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was a Presbyterian, but from remarks he made to me he could not accept Calvinism. He never joined my church, but I will always believe that since that night Abraham Lincoln lived and died a Christian gentleman."

<sup>59</sup> See N. Y. C. Adv.

See Farewell address on leaving Springfield.

"Answer to Illinois Clergymen."

"Talk with Mrs. Pomeroy, while Tad is sick, after Willie's death; talk with State Supt. Bateman.

"Mr. Lincoln said in trembling voice, and cheeks wet with tears:—"I know there is a God, and that He hates injustice and slavery. I see the storm coming, and I know that His hand is in it. If He has a place and a work for me,—and I think He has—I believe I am ready. I am nothing, but truth is everything. I know I am right, because I know liberty is right; for Christ teaches it, and Christ is God."

Jacques, Statement C. A., Nov. 15, 1909.

*Rev. James F. Jacques*, at the time noted, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church in Springfield, 1839, late Pres. of Quincy College, and during the War, Colonel of the Preachers' Regiment—the 73d Ill. Vols.—See Christian Advocate, Nov. 11, 1869 and report of the Eleventh Annual Re-union, Survivors of the Seventy-third Regt.

The surmise that Lincoln was an unbeliever, has been handed down, largely, in the judgment of the author, directly and indirectly from the representation of Mr. Herndon, Mr. Lincoln's law partner. Mr. Herndon was a rank "free thinker," and sought, as is shown in his representation of Lincoln's religious views, to picture him in this respect as a man of his own thinking. Direct evidence is all against such representation. Robert Lincoln, the President's son modestly declares against it.



## Literary Style and Oratory.

Four hundred years ago, under the corporate management of Oxford University, Brasenose College was founded. On the walls of this historic school there hangs today an engrossed fac-simile copy of Abraham Lincoln's letter to Mrs. Bixby of Boston,—“As a specimen of the purest English and most elegant diction extant. It is said that as model of expressive English, it has rarely, if ever, been surpassed.”

On the 19th of November, 1863, the Battlefield of Gettysburg was dedicated as a National Cemetery. Edward Everett was the chosen orator, and he delivered a most scholarly address. Weeks before, Governor Curtin of Pennsylvania, and the Governors of sixteen other States, whose soldiers had participated in the battle, urgently requested Mr. Lincoln, as Chief Executive, to be present, to participate in the ceremonies, and to consecrate the grounds. President Lincoln followed Mr. Everett with a few brief sentences. The following day Mr. Everett wrote to Mr. Lincoln:—“ \* \* \* Permit me to express my great admiration of the thoughts expressed by you, with such eloquent simplicity and appropriateness, at the consecration of the Cemetery. I should be glad if I could flatter myself that I came as near to the central idea of

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Being asked in reference to this, he replied:—“I cannot undertake to verify any questions or statements made from authors of works upon his life, and least of all those emanating from William Herndon.” Declining to speak at length (“It would take all my time were I to answer all queries.”)—he referred to the life of his father written by Hon. Isaac N. Arnold as being the best he had seen respecting it.





THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG.



the occasion, in two hours, as you did in two minutes."

Gladstone said of this address:—"Its ideals are loftier than have been uttered from a throne in all the annals of history."

After the first Inaugural, comments were being made, and suggestions that Seward had to do with it. Judge Jeremiah Black, a man of the highest culture, the brains of the Buchanan administration, and one of the greatest of lawyers, said:—"Gentlemen, we have underrated the man from Illinois. There is but one man in America that could write that document, and that is not William H. Seward. We shall find Mr. Lincoln the brainiest man on the continent."

Of the second Inaugural, Mr. Gladstone said:—"I am led captive by so striking an utterance as this. \* \* \* It gives evidence of a moral elevation most rare in statesmen or in any other man." A prominent London paper at the time pronounced that Inaugural:—"The noblest political document known in history." While Mr. Emerson said:—"It will outlive anything that has been printed in the English language."

Whence and where and how came that power of thought and speech which gives utterance to golden sentences which have become classic, and are pronounced by the best literary critics of the world as among the few great masterpieces of human speech? Mr. Choate gives direction to our search when, noting the Cooper Institute address, he says:—"It was marvelous to see how that untutored man, by mere self discipline and chastening



of his own spirit, had outgrown all meretricious arts and found his way to the grandeur and strength of absolute simplicity.”<sup>60</sup>

The key that unlocks that mystery is not the miracle, or some freak of human nature, but the genius of the man, with native powers equal to the best, wisely and carefully cultivated, under Divine direction, and kept in use. He lived in vigorous contact with men and events. These he mastered and made the truth a part of himself. When he wrote or spoke it was usually after mature deliberation, and straight to the point. Says Mr. Choate: —“What Lowell calls the great simplicities of the Bible, with which he was so familiar, were reflected in his discourses.”

Lincoln took as his literary model, and constant study, his mother’s gift to him, the Book most read, and the greatest masterpiece of literature the world has ever known, the Bible. In his letters and in his speeches the spirit of the Bible was always manifest, and its language was at his tongue’s end. Like Shakespeare, too, he had the grasp of thought and human nature and trained himself to speak in the simple, clear and effective Anglo Saxon—the language of the *Common people*.

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<sup>60</sup>Mr. Joseph H. Choate has told something of the occasion and of the address of Lincoln at Cooper Institute:—“It was a great audience, including all the noted men—all the learned and cultured of his party in New York, editors, clergymen, statesmen, lawyers, merchants, critics. \* \* \* For an hour and a half he held his audience in the hollow of his hand.” After the address, a Yale professor, who was present and heard the address, sought him out at his hotel. He stated that he had been greatly interested in listening to him and was anxious to know when and where he had acquired his marvelous power as a public speaker. Surprised at being thus approached, Lincoln could only answer that his sole training had been in the School of Experience.

An incident for illustration may be in point. Col. J. G. Wilson was dining with the President, when late in the evening, Secretary Seward and E. B. Washburn were announced. "Mr. Seward said 'they had desired to show the President the large gold medal just received from the Philadelphia Mint, voted by Congress to General Grant for the capture of Vicksburg.' Mr. Lincoln, approaching a small center table on which there was a drop light, opened the morocco case containing the medal upside down. After a long pause Col. Wilson ventured to remark, 'What is the obverse of the medal, Mr. President'? He looked up and turning to Mr. Seward, said: 'I suppose the Colonel means 'tother side.' There was no sting in this and Mr. Wilson joined in the general laugh."<sup>61</sup>

### **A Wonderful Era and Its Crisis.**

A marvelous era is in forming;—an era of vast significance and of world-wide importance. Free government is under trial. The foundations are being tested, and the whole world, with credulous eye, is looking on to see the experiment. Through somewhat clarified skies we may now look back upon a National drama, with the crisis of an era, and judge as we could not when the clouds were gathering and the storm was bursting in its fury.

A Nation conceived by the wisdom of God, brought forth in the pain and suffering poverty of patriots, cradled in the rude, but bounteous lap of a new continent and nourished by the wholesome truths of the Declaration of '76 and the Constitu-

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<sup>61</sup> Putnam's Magazine, February, 1909.

tion of '87. Rising from her cradle, she lays aside her swaddling clothes, looks out upon her Eastern seaboard, and adds to it the Summer gardens of the Gulf; and in her youthful vigor steps out beyond majestic water-ways, touches the Rio Grande, crosses broad plains which touch the horizon at every point; climbs mountain ranges, colossal in size, full of costly treasures, and which challenge the world for scenes sublime and grand, then crosses plateaus and valleys, the very garden of the world, quaffs the breeze of the Western Ocean, and claims the better portion of a Continent as its own.

Such, in brief, is the material outline of a youthful Nation, bequeathed to us by the fathers, and won by her own inherent powers;—a promising child, with inner life most vigorous, with heart and brain in touch with the accumulated wisdom of the ages, and calculated to satisfy the political wants and temporal longings of aspiring humanity.

Valuable treasures and worthy ends, however, are not easy to attain and are sometimes costly in the winning. The Government bequeathed to us was the masterpiece of the ages past, but it was not without its inborn weakness and outward parasites. For seventy years and more the people had to grapple with questions which threatened to destroy, and only won at last in the supreme fight of history. Conflicting ideas of Colonial rights and Federal control, which played so large a part in the Federal Convention of 1787, were nursed to abnormal strength by the growing power of slavery, until compromise added to compromise, and laws



unsavory and unjust gave place to threats of *disunion* and the maturing plans of *secession*.

The Presidential election of 1860 precipitated the movement. The doctrine of State sovereignty reasserted itself and caused eleven states to attempt secession. The innate and fundamental incentive, however, was the antiquated but cherished institution of the South, Negro slavery.

### **Talents and Qualifications Needed.**

To meet the culminating issues, and to lead in the final conflict, a man of rare talents and those of the highest order was needed;—a man fitted by the keenest perceptions, by the most stable powers of the intellect, by the best qualities of the heart, by the noblest traits of character, and by proper education for the work;—a man possessed of reasoning powers of the first order, but who could so control his reason as not to allow it to become the slave of feeling;—a man with singleness of purpose and uncompromising allegiance to the Federal Union;—a man in touch with humanity at its various points, and charitable for those who might differ with him in opinion;—a man who could weigh with marked accuracy the logic of passing events, with the foundation principles of the Government;—a man with prophetic insight to grasp something of God's purpose in the continued mission of the Nation. For this rare and perilous work which meant so much to the Nation, to the entire world and to the welfare of coming generations, a leader proportionate to the work was needed. A Wilberforce in unruffled ardor and “in-

tense fellow feeling for others ;"—a Columbus in persistency ;—a Hastings in ambition, but unsullied by lust of gain or power ;—a Phillips in devotion to human rights ;—a Nehemiah in wise and conservative action ;—a Hampden in honesty and determination ;—a William the Silent in sagacity ;—a Winkleried in patriotism ;—in political acumen a more than Pitt, Mirabeau or Mazzini ;—in high moral purpose and lofty heroic will a Gustavus Adolphus ;—an Abraham in faith ;—in statesmanship a Cromwell, a Cavour, a Bismark ;—in courage, integrity and justice a Washington ;—a Moses in leadership.

### **The Man, the Discovery, the Selection.**

God alone could divine the man and give direction to the training. The Kentucky cabin, the Indiana forest, the river flat-boat, the shambles of New Orleans, the prairies of Illinois, the backwoods and rustic society, rude and sometimes boorish mates ;—the shoeless feet, the buckskin pants, the coonskin cap ;—the bashful mien, the weeping orphan, the rollicking boy, the champion athlete, the sorrowing lover, the pioneer farmer lad, the rail splitter, the rural tradesman, the lawyer's office, the successful suiter, the mirthful melancholy face,—did not hide from God the man he wanted. In due time the people of the West discovered the leader, the East discerned his ability and the Nation selected even better than it knew. No nation in the world can boast of greater men, and greater statesmen than the founders of our Nation, and their successors. We are proud of the record ; but

it was reserved for Abraham Lincoln to lead in the culmination of the conflict for free government and a united Nation.

### Promethius Unbound.

"Truth shall restore the light by Nature given,  
And like Promethius, bring the fire from heaven."

—*Campbell.*

Reader, you have seen, perchance, a captive eagle and watched him looking out upon his native element and struggling to be free. His piercing eye turns here and there, and upward, and then meets yours as though to beg your help to set him free. The way at last is open, the captive monarch moves out into his native air, looks around as though to thank his benefactor, and then moves out in trial of his powers of flight. He lights upon some lofty tree and prunes his plumage, then soars aloft to the distant crag and prunes again his wings for another flight. He takes survey of his surroundings, turns witsfully to the mountain heights, then floats out upon the air and mounts upward in his flight, higher, and higher, and higher still, until at last he's lost to sight in the blue of the upper sky.

So it seems with Lincoln. The splendid powers of his remarkable intellect, the noble qualities of his great heart, the vigorous elements of his aspiring soul, were hemmed in by the environments of his early life; but little by little, mainly by his own exertions, and the opening ways of Providence, the barriers give way, and a great soul, as yet ignorant of its mighty powers, moves out upon its upward flight.



## Statesmanship.

More than four hundred years before the Christian Era, Hippocrates, the father of Medical science, laid down this axiom:—"He seems to me to be the best physician *who knows how to know beforehand what will happen.*" This axiom of that famous old Greek is as true of statesmanship as of Medical science. In our day Carl Schurz has said:—"Profound conviction of right and wrong is the basis of true statesmanship." Lowell declared:—"A profound common sense is the best genius for statemanship." Abraham Lincoln was pre-eminently endowed with each and all of these qualities. Politics, or statesmanship, in this higher sense, was his native element. The Kentucky frontier, the Indiana farm, the grove and itinerant meetings, the Boonville courts, the river and flat boats, the country store, the Black-Hawk war, the Legislature, and Congress even, were but the stopping places for him to prune his marvelous gifts and fit him for something yet to come.

## Lincoln the Lawyer.

Lincoln had not a broad legal education. He had not the ability to handle the wrong side of a case as well as the right;—nor had the inclination to do so. He hated sophistry and quibbles and crooked reasoning. He would not stoop to them himself or tolerate them in others. He was quick to grasp the vital point at issue, and to leave aside the nonessentials. It is a recognized fact, I believe, that one of the chief characteristics of a great lawyer is his ability in the statement of the case.

Judge Jeremiah S. Black was one of the great lawyers of our country. Before the War he was trying a case before the Supreme Court of the United States. Juda P. Benjamin, later a member of the Cabinet of Jefferson Davis, and known as "the Brains of the Confederacy," was on the opposite side. Going out to lunch one day, one of the Judges, (Judge Story) and Mr. Black were walking together. "Black," said the Judge, "That little Jew will state you out of court, if you aren't careful." Lincoln was pre-eminent here. He would often state a case with such clearness and conciseness that argument thereafter was hardly necessary. He was unsurpassed as a jury lawyer, and had but few equals in the higher courts. His lucid statements and demonstration of facts, illustrated often with striking similes and pointed anecdotes, together with his unquestioned honesty, won for him the confidence of jurymen; while his remarkable quickness in seeing the pivotal point, avoiding unimportant details and freeing from technicalities, and keeping to the front the vital points of a case were sure to secure the weighty consideration of the Bench. He had the moral instincts, the rigid honesty, the mental grasp, the keen analysis, the pitiless logic of a great lawyer. And in his practice he rose as the peer of the ablest in his profession, and stood indeed at the head of the Springfield Bar.<sup>62</sup>

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<sup>62</sup> He had a clearness of statement which was itself an argument. \* \* \* He was one of the most successful lawyers we ever had in the State.—*Judge Thos. Drummond*.

Frequently the Court would stop him any say:—"If that is the case, Brother Lincoln, we will hear the other side." \* \* \* The strongest jury lawyer in the State.

Lincoln was indeed a great lawyer; so his contemporaries have attested and so history will ever record. But even his success and leadership at the Bar proved but the place to prune his splendid powers for a higher flight and a greater end.

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He had the ability to perceive with almost intuitive quickness the decisive point in the case.—*Isaac N. Arnold.*

In order to bring into activity his great powers, it was necessary he should be convinced of the right and justice of the case he advocated. \* \* \* In all elements that constituted the great lawyer, he had few equals. \* \* \* He seized the great points of a case, and presented them with clearness and great compactness.—*Judge David Davis.*

He neglected details because his thought, which "was as direct as light," passed instinctively to the vital spot, and all else seemed unimportant. "If I can free this case from technicalities and get it properly before the jury, I'll win it," he used to say.—*Frederick Trever Hill.*

To illustrate the esteem in which he was held as a lawyer, Senator Cullum has said:—"I knew Lincoln from the time I was a mere lad, ten or twelve years old, and then before that time I remember that men came twenty or thirty miles to ask my father's judgment as to whom to employ as a lawyer in important cases. My father would say to them, 'If Stephen A. Logan is there employ him; if not, there is a young man by the name of Lincoln who will do almost as well.'"

Says McKinley:—"He frequently defeated some of the most powerful legal minds in the West. In the higher courts he has won great distinction in the important cases committed to his charge."

In his practice of more than twenty years, we are told, he had no less than one hundred and sixty-nine cases in the highest courts of Illinois; a record unsurpassed by his contemporaries.

His knowledge of human nature played an important part in his success. He tried more cases in the eighth circuit (his own—the Springfield) than any other member of that Bar.

Lincoln had no apologies to make for the legal profession; he believed in his calling. He had no patience with the idea that honesty was not compatible with the practice of the law. He once said:—"Let no young man choosing the law as a calling yield to that popular belief. Resolve to be honest, at all events. If in your judgment you cannot be an honest lawyer, resolve to be honest without being a lawyer. Choose some other occupation rather than one in the choosing of which you do, in advance, consent to be a knave."







## **Repeal of the Missouri Compromise.**

When Lincoln entered the Legislature of Illinois he was a young man. Douglas, the idol of his party, and later known as "The Little Giant of Illinois," was the Attorney General, and later member of the Legislature. Years pass on, Douglas is a member of the United States Senate. The slave power is becoming more and more aggressive. Douglas joins in the issue. He introduces the bill for the repeal of the Missouri Compromise;—which action was designed to open Kansas and Nebraska for the extension of slavery.

This action of Congress was the fateful turning point which resulted in the formation of the new Republican party. Lincoln is again summoned to the front. He leaves his law office and joins in the issue, hand in hand with Bissell and Lovejoy and Palmer and Logan and a host of others. Late in 1854 he is pitted in the controversy against the author and champion of the act. He had previously been known as the leader of his District, henceforth he is known as the foremost man of the State. \* \* \*

## **Bloomington Convention.**

In the spring of 1856 the opponents of slavery meet in State Convention, at Bloomington.<sup>63</sup> "A group," says Mr. Curtis, "of earnest, zealous, sincere men, willing to make tremendous sacrifices and to undertake Titanic tasks."

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<sup>63</sup> First Republican State convention, held at Bloomington, Ill., May 29, 1856, composed of Abolitionists, Free Soil Whigs and Free State Democrats. Lincoln a delegate from Sangamon County.



Various theories were entertained. Most had set ideas and clung to their own specialties and methods of work, and advocated such ideas as to ways and means;—such indeed as to augur disaster and threaten defeat. While attending Court on his district, Lincoln had been elected as a delegate from Sangamon County. He was called upon to address the convention. He saw the danger of discord and disunited ideas as to means and methods and the need as well of united and concerted action to reach the common purpose. He saw the crisis in the history of the Nation and sought to harmonize and combine the humane and patriotic emotion of this liberty-loving assembly of earnest and determined men. He rose sublimely to the full requirements and the occasion of the hour. He thrilled the audience as with a tongue of fire. It was a masterpiece of oratory and carried conviction to the hearts of the people. Here it is said:—"Under the influence of Lincoln's eloquence all the reporters lost their heads." I cannot refrain from quoting here a few scattering sentences from this speech, so long supposed to have been lost. It gives expression to fundamental principles which swayed his thoughts and controlled his political action as a citizen and to which he adhered as Chief Executive of the Nation.<sup>64</sup>

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<sup>64</sup>As one of the delegates from old Sangamon I am here certainly as a sympathizer in this movement. \* \* \* I suppose we truly stand for the public opinion of Sangamon on the great question of the repeal. \* \* \* We are in a trying time—it ranges above mere party \* \* \* for unless popular opinion makes itself very strongly felt, and a change is made in our present course, *blood will flow on account of Nebraska, and brother's hand will be raised against brother.* \* \* \* We must not promise what we ought not, lest we be called on to perform what

we cannot. \* \* \* We are here to stand firmly for a principle, to stand firmly for a right. \* \* \* We have seen today that every shade of popular opinion is represented here, with *Freedom*, or rather *Free Soil*, as the basis. \* \* \* We have together in some sort representatives of popular opinion against the extension of slavery into territory now free in fact as well as by law, and the pledged word of statesmen of the Nation who are now no more. \* \* \* We are here to demand and determine that slavery must be kept out of Kansas. \* \* \* By every principle of law, a negro in Kansas is free; yet the bogus legislature makes it an infamous crime to tell him that he is free. \* \* \* In the early days of the Constitution slavery was recognized by the South and North alike as an evil and the division of sentiment about it was not controlled by geographical lines or consideration of climate, but by moral and philosophical principle. \* \* \* In Kentucky—my native State—in 1849, on a test vote, \* \* \* the State of Boone, and Hardin, and Henry Clay, with a *nigger* under each arm, took the black trail to the deadly swamp of barbarism. Is there, can there be any doubt? \* \* \* Can any man doubt that, even in spite of the people's will, slavery will triumph through violence, unless that will be made manifest and enforced? \* \* \* The battle of freedom is to be fought out on principle. Slavery is a violation of the eternal right. We have temporized with it from the necessity of our condition; *but as sure as God reigns and school children read, THAT BLACK FOUL LIE CAN NEVER BE CONSECRATED INTO GOD'S HALLOWED TRUTH.* \* \* \* Can we as Christian men, and strong and free ourselves, wield the sledge or hold the iron which is to manacle anew an already oppressed race?

The Union is undergoing a fearful strain, but it is a stout old ship, and has weathered many a hard blow, and "the stars in their courses," aye and invisible power, greater than the puny efforts of men, will fight for us. Let us revere the Declaration of Independence; let us continue to obey the Constitution and the laws; let us keep step to the music of the Union; let us draw a cordon, so to speak, around the slave States, and the hateful institution, like a reptile poisoning itself, will perish by its own infamy. \* \* \* We must reinstate the birthday promise of the Republic. We must reaffirm the Declaration of Independence. We must make good in essence as well as in form Madison's avowal that the word *slave* ought not to appear in the Constitution. \* \* \* But in seeking to attain these results, so indispensable, if the liberty which is our pride and boast shall endure, we will be loyal to the Constitution and to the "Flag of the Union," no matter what our grievance, even though Kansas shall come in as a slave State; and no matter what theirs—even though we restore the Compromise—WE WILL SAY TO THE SOUTHERN DIS-UNIONISTS: WE WILL NOT GO OUT OF THE



## Dred Scott Decision and Popular Sovereignty.

Soon after the inauguration of President Buchanan, followed the decision of the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case, which decision carried with it the view that Congress itself could not prohibit slavery in the Territories,—as Bancroft puts it:—“The Chief Justice volunteers to come to the rescue of slavery,” while Buchanan himself gives his endorsement that:—“Kansas is as much a slave State as South Carolina or Georgia;—slavery by virtue of the Constitution exists in every Territory.” The danger signal is thus fully unfurled. Douglas finds it necessary to attempt reconciliation between this decision and his pronounced ideas of *Popular Sovereignty*. To this end he returned from Washington July 1st and made elaborate addresses on the subject at Springfield and elsewhere. Then came the determined effort of the President to force Kansas into the Union as a slave state under the bogus Lecompton constitution. To this Douglas shrewdly and strenuously objected and worthily led the opposition in the United States Senate. Lincoln had watched the progress of affairs, carefully measured the trend and logical outcome and prepared himself for the battle. At the Republican State convention at Springfield in June, 1858, where he was declared to be the first and only choice of the convention for United States Senator, he gave his famous speech “A House divided against itself.”

\* \* \* “I believe this government cannot endure

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UNION, AND YOU *SHAN'T*!!! \* \* \* Our moderation and forbearance will stand us in good stead when, if ever, WE MUST MAKE AN APPEAL TO BATTLE, AND TO THE GOD OF HOSTS!!!



half slave and half free. I do not expect the Union is to be dissolved—I do not expect the house to fall—but I do expect it will cease to be divided. \* \* \*

These stentorian notes went forth through the land and evoked wide-spread response. Shortly after he was invited to be present at Clinton, where Douglas was to speak. An immense crowd had gathered. The speaker was ingenious, evasive, forcible. He referred to Lincoln's Springfield address in a slurring and critical manner. At the close there were loud cries for Lincoln, and upon the urgent request of the audience, he consented to speak in reply in the evening on the Court House square which he did. The address throughout was logical and convincing. The closing sentence I may quote as a declaration of lofty and inherent American Statesmanship. "Judge Douglas charges me with being in favor of Negro equality, and to the extent that he charges me I am not guilty. I am guilty of hating servitude and loving freedom; and while I would not carry the equality of the races to the extent charged by my adversary, I am happy to confess before you that in some things the black man is equal to the white. In the right to eat the bread his own hands have earned he is the equal of Judge Douglas or any other living man."

### **Lincoln-Douglas Debate.**

In August, '58, Lincoln and Douglas meet in forensic debate on "*Squatter Sovereignty*," the prelude of the war of the Rebellion. The platform of the debate was Lincoln's Springfield address. The debate has come down to us without a parallel in its kind, and as one of the greatest events in Polit-

ical history. These speeches of Lincoln easily stand among the masterpieces of popular oratory and groundwork of American statesmanship. Stephen A. Douglas was a statesman. He had few equals and perhaps no superior as a debator, and on the hustings. They enter the arena as contestants for the United States Senate.. It was a battle of giants. The debate began at Ottawa, and at Freeport Lincoln puts to Douglas the pivotal question on Territorial rights to exclude slavery.<sup>65</sup> Friends of Lincoln had previously cautioned him against this interrogatory, saying:—"If you do you can never be Senator." "Gentlemen," replied Lincoln, "I am killing larger game; if Douglas answers he can never be President, and the battle of 1860 is worth a hundred of this." Two years later the prediction came true. This irksome question showed the shrewdness and the foresight of the statesman and resulted in the division of Douglas' party and the election of Lincoln to the Presidency in 1860.

Mr. Watterson refers to the debate as:—"The most extraordinary spectacle the annals of our party warfare affords. Lincoln enters the canvas unknown outside the State of Illinois. He closed it renowned from one end of the land to the other. \* \* \* He followed this central shot," continues Mr. Watterson, "with volley after volley, of exposition so clear, of reasoning so close, of illustration so

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<sup>65</sup> "Can the people of a United States Territory, in any lawful way, against the wishes of any citizen of the United States, exclude slavery from its limits, prior to the formation of a State Constitution"?

Lincoln is said to have characterized Douglas' reply as follows: "It is thinner than homeopathic soup made of the boiled shadow of a Pigeon that has died of starvation."

pointed, at times with humor so incisive, that though he lost the election, his defeat counted far more than Douglas' victory; for it made him the logical candidate for the Presidency of the United States two years later." This deduction, as to results, was certainly true as to the West, and he was thus favorably introduced to the East. On his return to Washington, Douglas said to Mr. Watter-son:—"He," (Lincoln,) "is the greatest debator I have ever met either here or anywhere else." After his election to the Presidency Douglas said to a group of Republican statesmen:—"Gentlemen, you certainly have selected a very able and a very honest man."

His speech at Cooper Institute was universally recognized as a masterpiece of oratory and political logic. Says Mr. Choate:—"That wonderful speech led directly to his nomination and election as President. \* \* \* 'Let us have faith that right makes might,' that closing sentence rang through the city and the country."<sup>66</sup>

In his way upward, Lincoln never resorted to the tricks of trade, legal, political or otherwise. He never acted the part of a demagogue; he treated his opponents with fairness and consideration! He never forgot the kindness and services of friends, and never turned his back upon them. He never sought to win by disparaging his opponents.<sup>67</sup> He

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<sup>66</sup> J. H. Choate—Abraham Lincoln.

<sup>67</sup> "Twenty years ago, Judge Douglas and I first became acquainted; we were both young then; he is a trifle younger than I. Even then we were both ambitious, I, perhaps, quite as much as he. With me the race of ambition has been a flat failure. With him it has been a splendid success. His name fills the Nation, and it is



won through merit and the well-earned confidence of the people. His Legislative experience, his legal work and political movements, however, with their increasing responsibilities, were an unconscious preparation for the greater and graver responsibilities awaiting him.

### The Wigwam.

Some years ago, in student life, the writer chanced to see an electric display, unique and beautiful. It was a quiet evening. I had left my books and wandered out for exercise and rest. Somehow my eyes turned upward, and there before me appeared a spectacle such as I never saw before or since. Reader, you have seen the Northern Lights play wondrous witcheries, but here they seemed to burst their barriers. Above and nearly overhead, appeared a crown of light, strong, glittering and brilliant; and from that center, as from a blazing sun, went forth the gold and silver spangling, until the concave vault of heaven was draped with waving light of wondrous beauty. The heavens appeared a jeweled crown. So I have thought the famous *Wigwam* in Chicago and the Convention by the lake, a crown of honor to the Nation, destined to spread its mellow light over all this land, and for ages yet to come. God's ways are sometimes strange and hard to understand. So it seemed to some at that Convention. But looking back through the vista of the years, and taking measure of the men, as later seen and known, and the ordeal

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not unknown in foreign lands. \* \* \* I had rather stand on that eminence than to wear the richest crown that ever pressed a monarch's brow."

through which the Nation was to pass, we see beyond all question, in the choice of "Honest Old Abe," the rail splitter of Sangamon Bottom, the one whom God, foresooth, had chosen "to steer the ship through the great crisis."

An incident or two in that Convention is here in point. The Republican party was in its youth and not yet homogeneous; there were differences of opinion as to the slavery question, the means and methods to be employed and the extent of interference; and there was grave danger of a rupture. A grand old man from the Western Reserve, Ohio, pleads for a sentence from the Declaration (All men created free and equal, etc.) to be embodied in the platform of the party. I see that grand old man to-day as I saw him when a boy, speaking to a class of students, and his earnest, eloquent words touch me now as they touched me then. The amendment was rejected, and Joshua R. Giddings, the gray haired veteran, representative man of the abolitionists, grieved and disappointed, left the room. Just at this crisis an earnest, eloquent, scholarly young man, appeared, and with a little change, renewed the amendment of Mr. Giddings, and in a speech most eloquent, stirred the entire Convention, and in closing cried out in his sweet stentorian voice:—"Is this Convention prepared to vote down the Declaration of our fathers, the charter of American liberty?" The amendment was carried almost unanimously and with great enthusiasm.

Mr. Giddings, having re-entered the hall, now urged his way through the surging crowd to the young man who had spoken, threw his arms around

the neck of George William Curtis, and with tears coursing down his cheeks, exclaimed:—"God bless you, my boy. You have saved the Republican party. God bless you." This amendment was one of the chief pillars of Lincoln's political creed.

In western New York, a little boy,<sup>68</sup> descended from Colonial parents and destined, himself, to become a man of letters, was watching the coming of a train on the New York Central, and scheduled for Chicago. The train went whirling by, and stretched along its side was a breadth of canvas and painted on it in large letters,—GOING TO CHICAGO TO NOMINATE NEW YORK'S FAVORITE SON,—WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

That little boy, grown to manhood, told to the writer the story the other day and the impress made upon his mind. That little story took me captive, for it spread before me a living picture of more than momentary interest. The snap-shot of the little boy reached the climax of its development, and received its boldest, richest, finest, magic touch, at the *Wigwam* in Chicago. Senator Seward was a scholar and a statesman. As Governor of New York, and long time Senator of the United States, he made an enviable record. He was widely known as leader of his party. His "*Irrepressible Conflict*," given in Rochester, Oct., 1858, was a worthy companion of Lincoln's "House divided against itself," given at Springfield in June preceding. That canvas display on the New York Central, was thought by delegates on the train, by Thurlow Weed, Mr. Everts, Mr. Osburn and other

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<sup>68</sup>Orando E. Clark, Appleton, Wis.



Eastern lights to be the certain outcome of the Convention. It is now the 18th day of May, the third of the Convention; the third ballot has been taken; a vote or two is lacking for the nomination, Ohio changes four ballots from Chase,—Lincoln is the nominee! The Convention goes wild!!—As soon as quiet is restored sufficiently, William M. Everts, Chairman of the New York delegation, ascends the platform and addresses the speaker, saying:—"Mr. Chairman, we come from a great State, with a great candidate whom we hoped to see nominated. In the name of that great State and by request of that great candidate, I move that the nomination of Abraham Lincoln be made unanimous." Cheers and deafening yells echoed and re-echoed through that great building; the nomination was proclaimed from the house top and sounded forth from the cannon's mouth on the street below, and in unnumbered telegraph offices the little brass fingers clicked the news through all the land. In the office in Springfield the message was handed to Lincoln. He read it over, then read it aloud, and without waiting farther said:—"There is a little woman at our home who will like to see it. I'll go down and tell her."<sup>69</sup>

### The Interim.

When Lincoln was elected President, Secession, as we have come to know was in an advanced state of preparation, and when he took his place war was imminent; with the Nation's navy scattered,

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<sup>69</sup>This and numerous other such like incidents speak forcibly as to the affectionate and confidential relations between Lincoln and his wife.

arsenals stripped, the treasury empty and the Nation's credit at low ebb.

The four months between the election and the inauguration form a dark, weary, gruesome chapter in the Nation's history. A weak and irresolute old man was in the Executive chair,<sup>70</sup> questioning the while his right to suppress insurrection and restrain insurgent States in acts of rebellion against the government, and seeking to shift the responsibility of his own administration upon that of his successor.<sup>71</sup> *High treason* was crouching at the

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<sup>70</sup>The outgoing President was not a Statesman in the higher sense, and of the first class. He was weak and vacillating. He was wanting in executive ability, and lacked self-assertion and the essential qualities of leadership. He was always behind in important crises, but managed to be at the front and ready to be counted in the time of victory. He was a pro-slavery Democrat, and his political proclivities were strongly Southern. He was really loyal to the Government and did not want to see the Union dismembered. His idea of the real character of the Constitution, however, and of the Government seem vague and incoherent. He seems to have been thoroughly tinctured with States' Rights ideas.

<sup>71</sup>General Duff Green went to Springfield in December, 1860, as an emissary of Pres. Buchanan to invite the President-elect to Washington for a conference upon the situation, with the hope that his presence there might prevent Civil war, and General Green was bold enough to tell him if he did not go, "Upon his conscience must rest the blood that would be shed." Here Lincoln's political shrewdness and diplomacy were demonstrated in as conspicuous a manner perhaps as at any other crisis in his life. He detected at once the intention to unload upon him the responsibility of a disunion and war and met it with a counter proposition, which must have excited the admiration of the conspirators who were trying to entrap him. He received General Green with great courtesy, heard him with respectful attention and gave him a letter in which he said he did not desire any amendment to the Constitution, although he recognized the right of the American people to adopt one; that he believed in maintaining inviolate the right of each State to control its own domestic institutions; and that he considered the lawless invasion by armed force of the soil of any State or territory as the gravest of crimes. While these were his sentiments, and while they indi-

door, boldly scheming, and secretly planning to make *secession* a settled fact before the Ides of March. Traitors were in the Cabinet,<sup>72</sup> plundering and disarming the Government, strengthening their allies in treason and plotting to render powerless the incoming President. Conspirators, red-handed and alert, were in Congress plotting treason and planning the destruction of the Union. Treachery stalked abroad, bold and defiant, while patriots looked on powerless to interfere, but praying God to speed the coming of the chosen leader. Lincoln was at home, watchful, anxious, reticent, hopeful, firm and determined, trustful in the loyalty of the masses and in the God of nations.

On the eleventh day of February, entrusted with his great mission, with a dreadful ordeal, dangers untold and difficulties unmeasured, before him, and with a most pathetic parting with old friends and neighbors,<sup>73</sup> Lincoln, with his family, left his home in Springfield, to which he was never to return. After a noteworthy and historic journey, he reached Washington on the morning of February 23d, having safely escaped the assassination deliberately planned at Baltimore, and discovered by the Pinkerton detectives.

Buchanan turned over the Government to his successor in a state of civil war. Until nearly the

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cated the policy he should pursue as President he would not consent to their publication unless the Senators from Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Louisiana and Texas would sign a pledge which he had written below his signature to this letter, and upon the same piece of paper.—*Curtis*.

<sup>72</sup> John B. Floyd, Secretary of War; Isaac Toucey, Secretary of the Navy; Howell Cobb, Secretary of the Treasury; Jacob Thompson, Secretary of the Interior.

<sup>73</sup> See Farewell Address, Appendix.



close of his administration the majority of his Cabinet were avowed disunionists, and were using their various positions to advance the aims and ends of secession, while their Chief doubted and philosophized upon the Constitutional rights of coercion; "Imitating Nero," as some one has said, "who fiddled while Rome was burning."

### **The Leader.**

We tremble when we look back upon the scene and see the dreadfulness of the conflict as no one then could understand it.—The shades of the fathers who gave us the Nation seem to rise in protest and ask for a leader upon whom might fall their sacred mantle, and save what they had won.

In the retrospect of fifty years we can now analyze the peculiarities of the Conflict as we could not then, and judge of the combination of qualities, gifts and abilities needed for that leadership as now seen actually mirrored in the characteristics, activities and success of the leader himself.—A man self-poised, honest, gentle, tolerant of the opinions of others, sympathetic but stern in pushing the battle for the right; wise, unselfish, tenderhearted, broadminded and impartial; hopeful, farsighted and of a long suffering patience "that had in it something of the divine;" a man of legally disciplined mind, of military strategic thought, and undying courage; reticent, self-reliant but free from arrogance of opinion; a man of candor, and big enough to see his own littleness and limitations, and willing to learn from experience and from others; a statesman of the highest rank,—one

who would never compromise with principle, though not refusing concession as to time and methods when needful; who would take God into account, firm in unyielding faith that right makes might. Such we have come to see were the qualities in part needed for that leadership.

On the fourth of March, 1861, a large assembly had gathered about the Eastern portico of the Capitol at Washington. Upon a wooden platform fronting that crowd of waiting people, was a cortege of officers and distinguished guests. Under direction of General Winfield Scott, United States soldiers had been duly stationed at various points. On the platform was a table on which lay the Holy Bible. With the utmost composure the speaker to be took off his hat, Stephen A. Douglas reached out, received and held it during the address. Senator Edward Baker, an old-time friend, introduced the man. Chief Justice Taney administered the oath of office. The speaker is described as:—"A tall, ungainly man, wearing a black suit, a black tie beneath a turned down collar, a black silk hat and steel rimmed spectacles;—His features were angular, his skin dark and his hair almost black, slightly sprinkled with gray; his eyebrows very heavy and prominent; his eyes were deeply set, gray and penetrating in their look; his well formed head was well poised on a neck neat and trim; his looks were sad and melancholy!" "His self possession," says Mr. Watterson, "was perfect. Dignity itself could not have been more unexcited. His voice was a little high pitched, but resonant, his expression was serious to the point of gravity, not

a scintillation of humor. It is only true to say that he delivered that Inaugural address as though he had been delivering Inaugural addresses all his life."

That address<sup>74</sup> has now become classic, and he who gave it was to be the Nation's leader through the most critical and trying period of the Nation's history.

**K**notty and most intricate problems were to be solved. Stupendous burdens were to be borne. "The perplexing compound," as he termed it, "Union and slavery," was in the seething caldron. There was a maze of diverse and conflicting ideas even among those who were for the Union.<sup>75</sup> To save the Nation he must find his way through some adjustment of these differing views as well as meet the open foe. The way before him was one of blood and tears and death. He was facing a war which proved to be one of the greatest wars in history;—a war whose responsibilities and heart-breaking experiences were sufficient to wear out any ordinary man. The people did not know the man then as we know him now; indeed he had not taken full measure of himself, and none but God could understand the needs of the coming ordeal and take the measure of the man He wanted.

It was thought by some that he was overmatched by his principal rivals for the Presidency, and would be overshadowed by the statesmen of the

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<sup>74</sup> See First Inaugural—in part, Appendix.

<sup>75</sup> He said:—"There were those for the Union with, but not without slavery; those who were for it without, but not with; those for it with or without but who preferred it with; and those for it with or without but who preferred it without."





HOUSE WHERE PRESIDENT LINCOLN DIED.



day. Failure was predicted, but fear was soon dispelled. He summoned to his Cabinet, as counselors, those men whom none but a great man would have ventured to select,—his principal rivals in the contest for the Presidential nomination, the leaders of the party, and the ablest statesmen of the country. Nor did his greatness suffer in comparison by the contact. He towered above them all as their leader. His discernment of character and his masterly management of men so different from himself and from each other as Seward and Stanton and Chase, the power to hold them together and to utilize their splendid and indispensable abilities for the good of the Nation, proved the genius of a leader seldom, if ever before, found in history. In less than a year every one of these great leaders recognized that he was in the presence of his chief and superior. Seward was one of the first to recognize this. Early in the administration he wrote to his wife:—"Executive skill and vigor are rare qualities. The President is the best of us."

In '61 and '62 Lincoln's character and motives were utterly misunderstood even by many in the North; and his efforts were often misconstrued. For the first two years of his administration he was often caricatured in the most ludicrous manner. He was represented as a "Buffoon," "A blundering ignoramus," "A selfish intriguer," "A heartless clown," and such like. The present generation can little understand the intensity of the antagonism towards Lincoln, for a time, even in the North and in his own party and among his nominal friends.<sup>76</sup>

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<sup>76</sup> Among these were Wendell Phillips, who at one time called him the "slave-hound of Illinois"; Horace Greely,



Such, however, seems the characteristic weakness of human judgment, when applied to men in public life, and dealing with great and critical questions in which men differ, and in which keen discernment and judicious foresight are essential. Lincoln's real self and work were veiled, at times, under a seemingly rough and homely exterior. But when the veil was lifted it disclosed a great heart, a noble soul, a wise, farsighted and safe leader.

### **The Guiding Spirit of the War.**

Lincoln in the Civil War is essentially the history of the War in miniature. He had his committee on conduct of the War, his Generals in the field, and his Secretary of War, but he was Commander-in-Chief, and upon him rested the ultimate responsibility of military success or failure. Nor did he attempt to shirk the responsibility. From first to last he put in force his keen discernment, clear foresight, instinctive military skill and intense application in military as in other matters; and as the War progressed, encouraged and sustained by his great War Secretary, he refused to loose his hold even in the face of the bitterest criticism. Many leading soldiers during the War gave him the credit of having the essential qualities of a great General.<sup>77</sup>

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Dr. Cheever, delegates from the North; Dr. Channing, Conway and others. "During his brief term of power," says Joseph H. Choate, "he was probably the object of more abuse, vilification and ridicule than any other man in the world."

<sup>77</sup>Generals Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, Smith and others.

Lincoln had his Secretary of War, his Generals in the field, and Committee on conduct of the War; but Lincoln himself was the final arbiter.

His memoranda of July 23d, and 27th of July was the first definite and coherent plan for the prosecution of the

His decisions touching the reinforcement of Fort Sumpter, within twenty-four hours after his inauguration, and a like decision, a little later, as to Fort Pickens, his outline of military plans scheduled in '61, various letters to his Generals; the steam navy which so effectually blockaded the Southern ports, and the opening of the Mississippi, cutting in two the Confederacy, and which had their

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War. It emanated from his own mind and not from that of any of his Generals. \* \* \* No professional soldier or writer could state more precisely the military situation then existing or propose a sounder military plan. Lincoln had that faculty of intense application and clear insight, so rare that we call it genius; and he applied it as successfully to military affairs as to politics, notwithstanding the fact that he was by instinct a man of peace, and by training a lawyer, and that military problems never engaged his attention until he was fifty-two years old. His plans were interrupted and delayed first in one way and then in another.

Ideas evolved and written out in his own hand, July 23, 1861: (1) Let the plan for making the blockade be pushed forward with all possible dispatch. (2) Let the volunteer forces at Fort Monroe and vicinity, under Gen. Butler, be constantly drilled, disciplined and instructed without more force for the present. (3) Let Baltimore be held as now with a gentle but firm and certain hand. (4) Let the force now under Patterson, or Banks, be strengthened and made secure in its position. (5) Let the forces in West Virginia act till further orders according to instructions or orders from Gen. McClellan. (6) Let Gen. Fremont push forward his organization and operations in the West as rapidly as possible, giving special attention to Missouri. (7) Let the forces late before Manassas, except the three months men, be reorganized as rapidly as possible in their camps here and about Arlington. (8) Let the three months forces who declined to enter the longer service be discharged as rapidly as circumstances will permit. (9) Let the new volunteer forces be brought forward as fast as possible; and especially into the camps on the two sides of the river here. (When the foregoing shall have been substantially attended to, July 27): (1) Let Manassas Junction (or some point one way or other of the railroads near it) and Strasburg be seized, and permanently held, with an open line from Washington to Manassas and an open line from Harper's Ferry to Strasburg, the Military men to find the way of doing this. (2) This done, a joint movement from Cairo to Memphis, and from Cincinnati to East Tennessee. (Scribner's, July, 1909.)



origin in the mind of Lincoln, are in evidence of his able military leadership. Though not a soldier by profession, by education or by experience, he showed himself possessed of the instincts of a soldier, and had not a little of the soldier's strategy. The military problems of the War, after a few months, were more directly under the supervision of one of the ablest and most energetic men of modern times, the great War Secretary, Edwin M. Stanton. But the well-beaten path from the White House to the War Department, and the nightly presence of the President there at times of military movements was in evidence that the war measures were under his surveillance. With the facts and movements of the War period brought out and delineated through the careful study, investigation and criticism of nearly half a century, the conclusion has been reached by those well qualified to judge that Lincoln was a master of strategy and a military leader of no mean capacity.<sup>78</sup>

Time and events soon developed the fact that the war was to be a war of conquest on the part of the

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<sup>78</sup> General Francis V. Greene is reputed to be one of the foremost military critics in America. In 1901 he wrote: "Lincoln stands out among the very few preeminently great men in all time bringing to the study of purely military questions his extraordinary common sense, and often arriving at conclusions more correct than those of some of his best Generals."—*Scribner's*, 1901.

In 1909 he said: "Great statesman, astute politician, clear thinker, classic writer, master of men, kindly, lovable man. These are his titles. To them must be added—military leader. Had he failed in that quality the others would have been forgotten. Had peace been made on any terms but those of surrender of the insurgent forces and restoration of the Union, his career would have been a colossal failure and the Emancipation Proclamation a subject of ridicule. The prime essential was military success. Lincoln gained it."—*See Scribner's*, 1909.



North, and Lincoln was not slow to recognize the fact. "The skill which divined the proper strategy of the war," says a recent writer, "was as marked as the patience with which he tried General after General, till he found at last the man who could do the work" There were at first too many political Generals on the roll of officers, and as a writer and an officer has said, some "Trimmed their ships so as to ride into the Presidential haven upon the high wave of military fame and popularity." He enjoined Hooker to be cautious, and upon others he urged his ideas of movement and activity, as Pope and Meade, and especially McClellan, and with results now known to history.

One leader after another, when found unequal for the place, was displaced, and others named for the Eastern army, until, at last Grant was called ; and only as he took command would Lincoln relax his hold. To him he gave the supreme command, and the verdict of history shows his wisdom.

### **Diplomacy.**

The sought for excuses on the part of England and France, and other nations, to assist and recognize the Southern Confederacy, so-called, were matters of no small moment, added to the President's already excessive burdens. But here as elsewhere Lincoln rose to the needs of the occasion, and displayed diplomatic qualities of the highest rank. His quiet veto of Seward's plan to cure secession by waging war with France or Spain, and then with England, in the Trent affair, is in evidence. This, supplemented by the later and marked statesmanship of Seward, the diplomacy of Charles Fran-

ces Adams, then United States Minister to England, the efforts of Henry Ward Beecher, and the splendid services of Arch-Bishop Hughes in France and Italy, helped to avert the move and repel the interference. While Russia, always our friend, stood ready to lend a helping hand, if needed.<sup>79</sup>

### The Chieftain's Slogan.

Lincoln's slogan was the "*Salvation of the Union.*" Union with the constitutional guarantees accorded to the Slave system anywhere within the Slave states, if possible; but no extension of the system beyond such limits. He came to the Presidency entrusted with these principles, and no power, and no body of men were able to sway him

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<sup>79</sup> "The world is indebted to this Society (a powerful political society for reintroducing the Duma, abolished by Peter the Great, and to liberate all slaves, especially Christians, under the terrible Turkish sword), that the Emperor, Alexander II., called the Liberator, by one stroke of his pen abolished the slavery of twenty-two millions of peasants in Russia and thoroughly reformed all branches of administration.

To the same Society the United States are perhaps indebted for their very existence, because when the Civil War broke out, Lincoln's work was menaced by the attack of England in conjunction with France. These two strong countries, presuming that the failure of the Northern States meant to the United States ruin, seized the opportunity to attempt by force the return of the Northern States to their former status of a British Colony and to give back to France Louisiana and possibly some other of the Southern States. Even all Texas was offered to France in 1864 for recognition of the Confederacy. \* \* \* But Lincoln, as Liberator, had already the admiration of the Society, and the Society had the ear of the generous Emperor Alexander II., who immediately ordered his Atlantic fleet to sail into New York harbor and his Pacific squadron to enter San Francisco, informing England and France that their interference against Lincoln would mean a declaration of war against Russia. England and France heeded the timely warning."—*Count Spiridovitch*. (Lincoln Fellowship, 1908.)

(The above is amply confirmed by Hon. Samuel R. Thayer, late U. S. Minister to the Netherlands.)



in the least from this purpose. As Mr. Watterson has said:—"He became the incarnation of the brains and the soul of the Union." He entertained no question as to the Constitutional right of the Government to coerce a State attempting to withdraw from the Union.<sup>80</sup> When Fort Sumpter was fired upon, and the evidence of determined war was complete, Jackson like, though without his impetuosity, he acted. He called for troops and continued to call, as the needs of the war required, until nearly three million (3,000,000) were numbered with the Union army. The fall of Sumpter was the trumpet sound for the resurrection of the spirit of '76, and with deathless patriotism the Captain nailed the Union pennant to the Ship of State—All else was secondary.

### **The Emancipation Proclamation.**

It was the high privilege of Abraham Lincoln to produce and sign the Emancipation Proclamation. "It was special in language," says Frederick Douglas, "but general in principle." In the providence of God it was calculated to be the death knell of African slavery in our Nation. But it was issued as a War measure and distinctly stated as such. It proved a most welcome fulfillment too of a cherished premonition of his early manhood. The two great political aims of his life had been gained, the perpetuity of the Union and the downfall of slavery.

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<sup>80</sup> I can no more be persuaded that the Government can Constitutionally take no strong measure in time of rebellion because it can be shown that the same could not be taken in time of peace, than I can be persuaded that a particular drug is not good for a sick man because it can be shown to be not good food for a well.—*Reply to New York Democrats.*

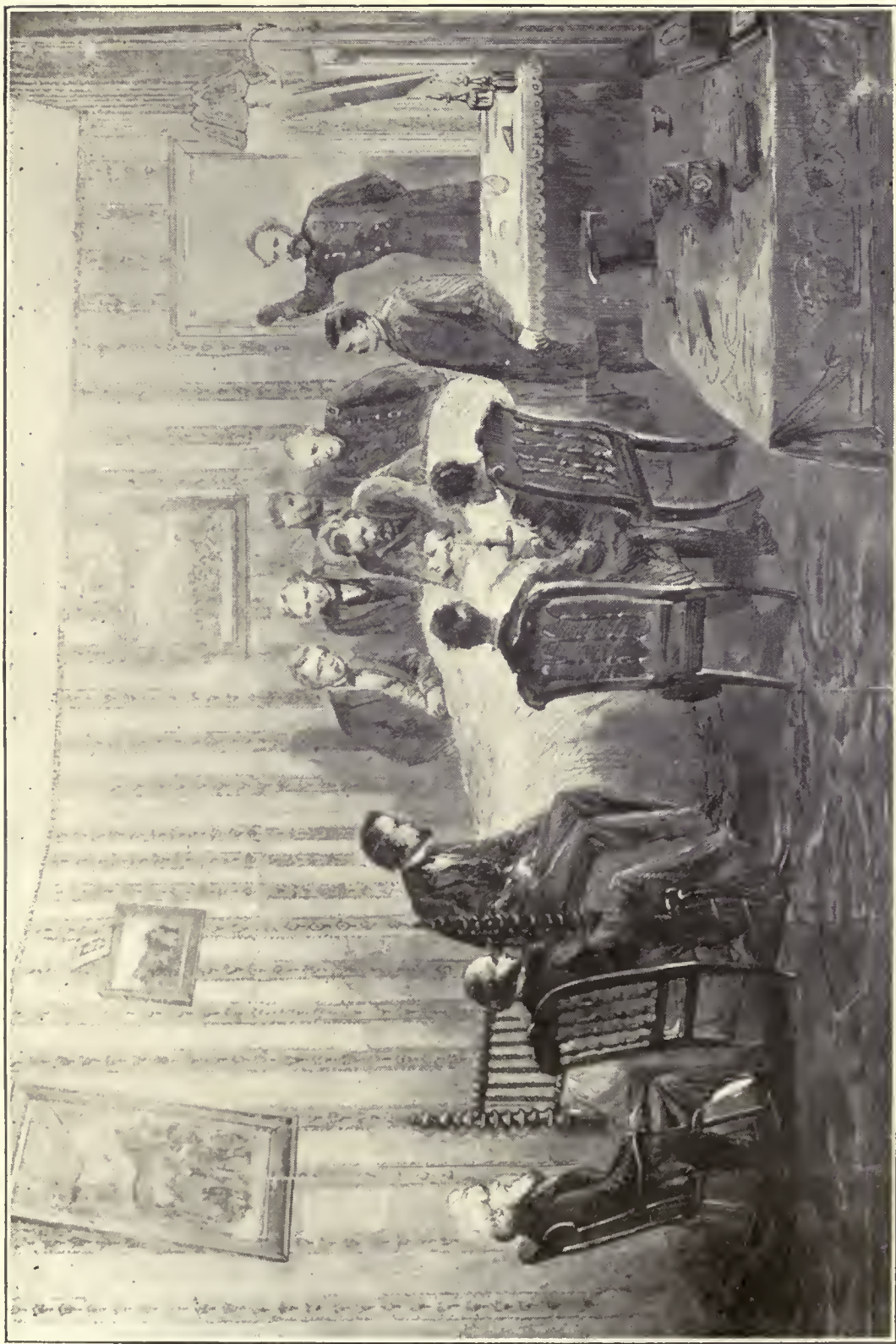


All sorts of people had been giving him the benefit of their advice in the matter of liberating the slaves.<sup>81</sup> He was in the midst of a war of conflicting opinions; and *when emancipation was proclaimed*, it was too late to suit some, too early to suit others, and too limited to suit still others. Here Lincoln was like the pilot carefully picking the way for the Ship of State between the Scylla and Charybdis of the Nation. After all, viewed from the light of surrounding conditions, and internal data, as we now see them, it was about as opportune a time as the country could have tolerated. Old statesmen, and other nations were looking on and questioning: "Will the Old Backwoodsman really get the Ship through?" But the hand of the leader was upon the pulse of the Nation; his head was above the raging storm and the whirling clouds, while his heart was in touch with the heart of God.<sup>82</sup> Lincoln hated the institution of slavery. He had said in his young manhood, witnessing men and women,

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<sup>81</sup> They seemed to think that the moment I was President I had the power to abolish slavery, forgetting that, before I could have any power whatever, I had to take the oath to support the Constitution of the United States and execute the laws as I found them. When the Rebellion broke out my duty did not admit of a question.—*See Six Months in the White House* (On occasion of lecture in House of Representatives by Mr. Geo. Thomas, and his visit with Pierpont Morgan and others to White House).

<sup>82</sup> The Tycoon is in fine whack. I have rarely seen him more serene and busy. He is managing this war, the draft, foreign relations, and planning a reconstruction of the Union, all at once. I never knew with what tyrannous authority he rules the Cabinet till now. The more important things he decides and there is no cavil. I am growing more and more firmly convinced that the good of the country absolutely demands that he should be kept where he is till this thing is over. There is no man in the country so wise, so gentle and so firm.—*John Hay to J. G. Nicolay.*



THE DEATH OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.





boys and girls in the auction shambles of New Orleans, and especially a beautiful octoroon on the auction block, handled, treated, examined as a beast:—"If I ever get a chance to strike that institution I'll hit it hard." The time and the man here came together. But he was at the head of the Nation to *save the Union*. "It was a fight for nationality, and the Government was in self defence." This act was a war measure, yet with its far-reaching and inevitable results. Repellant on the one hand, and sought for on the other, the thrilling word "*Emancipation*" was at last spoken. It was the bugle blast in the storm—"All hands on deck to save the ship"! It went forth echoing its telling message through the Nation and over the sea, and greeted on its way the 20,000,000 Serfs whom the Czar of Russia had spoken free. That Proclamation has the seal of Heaven upon it, and Lincoln will always be lauded as its honored agent. It has called forth and will continue to call forth the gratitude of a race of Freedmen, and his name will be crowned with eternal blessings. His reception at Richmond the day after the evacuation was a token of the feeling.<sup>83</sup>

The writer can never forget a scene he chanced to witness at the city of Petersburg the morning after the assassination. Several hundred colored people—contrabands—whom the Government was supplying with food had gathered in their morning ranks. It was my duty as Quartermaster to issue the rations. A tall negro, six feet and a half in height, I should say, headed the ranks. Just then

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<sup>83</sup> See Admiral Porter's account; also Col. Crook's and others.

a telegram was received and announced :—"Lincoln is dead; he has been assassinated"!! All was at a standstill. The very heavens seemed to be darkened, a cloud of sorrow seemed to press down upon the city. That tall negro in front trembled like a leaf and cried like a child. And as I looked over that dark cloud of humanity, weeping for their benefactor, and in sobbing tones crying out :—"Oh Massa Lincum, Massa Lincum, Massa Lincum dead! Massa Lincum dead!! Massa Lincum dead!!! What shall we do"? and such like expressions, my own eyes filled with tears and my heart quivered with sadness.

### The Drama Closing.

A drama, unparalleled in history, was coming to its close. A *drama*, not a play, but most intensely real, whose every act was crimsoned with the blood of heroes. Scene follows scene upon the Nation's tragic stage, until the assassin's bullet fells the foremost actor, and drops the curtain in the gloom of tragic midnight.

When our martyr leader died slavery had been abolished in the District of Columbia, and prohibited in the Territories. The Emancipation Proclamation had been honored in the Nation; and Congress had already passed the act for a Constitutional amendment abolishing slavery throughout the Union. While several of the States had already sanctioned the amendment; Illinois being the first and Maryland the second.

Lincoln lived until the old flag of Sumpter, after four dreadful years, was again unfurled—on the anniversary of its lowering—to wave with added

glory the triple message—"Liberty and Union—Now and forever—*One and inseparable.*" He lived to see the War practically ended; the Union saved; slavery abolished; the Declaration and the Constitution honored; Free government no longer an experiment, and its foundation fully established. He saw the success and the magnanimity of his chosen General, and died with the Nation bowed in sorrow, and the nations of the world bringing glad tributes to his memory, as one of the noblest characters, and one of the ablest statesmen, and one of the greatest men in all history.

### **The Chosen Man. True, and Equal to His Calling.**

Abraham Lincoln was not an accident, nor was he a prodigy. *He was a man.* A man equipped by nature for an important mission. A man chosen of God and selected by the people. He took good care of his mental and moral equipments, put them to their proper use, preserved them unsullied, and was not disobedient to his calling.

His brilliant humor and kindly wit and marvelous tact in story telling, especially in his later years, served him well, as "friction-saving oil," while crushing burdens bore down upon him during those fearful years of Civil War. Somehow, I seek not here to diagnose the case, but somehow, nature, or environments, or experience—too sacred, perchance, to uncover or disclose—cast a lasting shade of gloom upon his soul and left its impress upon the mirthful, melancholy, changeful visage of that "strange and lonely man." But through it all, and overmastering all, we find a keen, clear, strong, vig-



orous intellect. His broad humanity, his marked simplicity, his utter unassumption, dispassionate self-possession, the various traits of his moral greatness—we do not undervalue, and from them we would not detract one jot or tittle; but sometimes these qualities of the heart have been magnified at the expense of his mental powers.

Lincoln was a many sided man. He was a man of brains as well as heart. As a recent writer has put it, "He was many men in one, and each is worthy of a volume." His homely wit and thorough grasp of human nature; his incisive humor, and marked common sense; his intuition; his silent endurance of cruel calumny, and groundless censure; his tender sympathy and kindly tolerance; his great forbearance and guileless mercy; his remarkable faith and faultless patience—stood out like the work of a master artist upon the clear and symmetrical background of a most remarkable intellect.

The time has now come when the keenest and most severe of critics, looking back over the receding years, and sitting in calm reflection and humble judgment upon his life and work, must needs assert the superiority and greatness of his intellect, and admire the marvelous breadth and scope of his mental grasp. His intellect, however, may not be regarded as superior to, or to transcend the strength and beauty of his character—his moral and spiritual qualities, which stand out prominently in his life and work. His keen sense of justice, his lofty disinterestedness, his frankness, caution, candor and sincerity, his rigid honesty, modesty,

fidelity, and moral courage, his rugged dignity, patience and magnanimity, his love for and faith in God, and the common people—these were rooted in his soul, grew up in the byways of his private life, budded in public office as servant of the people, and blossomed in sacred memory and lasting fame as he closed his eventful life.

He proved himself possessed of master powers of mind; could grasp the situation, discern the needs and dictate the ways and means of action, when the Nation's grave had been dug and the funeral ceremonies had been announced; when statesmen of the highest rank hesitated, and patriots trembled; when diplomats looked on and prophesied defeat; an intellect that could penetrate the intricacies of the impending crisis, up towards which the ages had been moving—the complex problem how to save the Nation, and in the wreck of war, when peaceful means had proved unavailing, the corollary *how to save a race from bondage*. Here as leader, and in living sympathy with this great movement, so momentous in its source and outcome, and in which a thousand battlefields attest the peerless valor of American hearts, and the deathless glory of American arms; here with statesmen of world-wide renown, warriors of historic fame, and patriots undaunted in defeat, and those who died for victory; here foremost in this glorious galaxy of the great and the brave, with the searchlight of the world's best critics thrown back upon those dreadful years, when brother fought against brother for what each thought was right; here we look upon the man

whose hatred for slavery, and whose devotion to the Union never wavered, but who could direct the matchless fight of history without hatred or resentment towards whom the death dealing thunderbolts of war were hurled with remorseless fury; whose courage was out of touch with passion; whose great heart found no place for prejudice or malice, which it has taken years to banish from the hearts of the rank and file of the conquering and the conquered, but whose endearing qualities, like golden twilight shining forward, now touch with kindred pride the hearts of those who wore the blue and those who wore the gray; the man in whom was manifest the rare combination which demonstrates—"the greatness of real goodness, and the goodness of real greatness." A man in whom was joined together a great heart, full of simplicity, gentleness, patience, forbearance, mercy, sympathy, with an intellect profound and solid;<sup>84</sup> a will like flint, and courage invincible as that of the "Black Prince," whose strong arm and cold determination added to England's history one of her most splendid chapters.

We may not here attempt to unfold these traits, or to picture them in their force and beauty as he possessed them. Each is worthy of a chapter. On every hand they find expression in his life and work. His life was not the play of head or heart

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<sup>84</sup>It has been claimed by some that Lincoln's intellect was slow in its working. But any apparent slowness, I am persuaded, may be accounted for in his effort to reach absolute, or practical truth through reasoning. Mr. Sweet, private Secretary of Robert T. Lincoln, once said to the author:—"He was not slow in his thinking, but *quick* in his thinking; he was careful, however, in reaching correct conclusions."



alone, or of some stray virtue grown to abnormal strength; but a character full and rounded out. The wisdom of a sage seemed coupled to the simplicity of a child. Those years of war when Lincoln stands transcendent—when days were as the years and years were as the ages—were hero-making years, and epoch-making years. Fame winged her flight from vale and darkness to the mountain peaks of history. Merit climbed the rugged steeps and left her lasting placard on the heights above. Genius burst her barriers and gave her golden treasures to the world. In 1865 Lincoln was something more than he was in 1826, in 1834, in 1842, in 1848, in 1854, in 1856, in 1858, or in 1861. He grew like others in those character-making years of war. But as a man his measure has not yet been fully taken, and cannot be until that great heart with its endearing qualities, and that no less marvelous intellect, shall be comprehended in their union, as they really were, the one in two and the two in one, each stimulating and illuminating the other, and both guiding the man in his appointed work to form an inseparable brotherhood of the American people, who, under the added beauty of the Old Flag, on land and sea, are now at the open door, in the far off Orient, to guard and dictate peace to the nations of the world.

### **Noted Ones of Eighteen Hundred Nine.**

Noted men and women share with Lincoln the birth-year of eighteen hundred and nine. Poets and Musicians, Scientists and Statesmen. Alfred Tennyson, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Edgar Allen Poe and Oliver Wendell Holmes, have gladdened

with poetry the ears and hearts of the century gone. Albert Pike, the traveler-poet-journalist-lawyer; soldier in the Mexican war, a commander in the Confederate army; a Mason world renowned, and for nearly fifty years leader of the craft in the Southern jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite. Mendelssohn, the great composer of Oratorios, and Frederick Chopin, the master pianist; Charles Darwin, the man of brains, the master analyst who has taught us seriously to think on evolution. Our own Robert C. Winthrop, the silver tongued orator, the Christian statesman, from the Old Bay state, and Hannibal Hamlin, the man of granite principles, the sheet anchor of our Senate when the storm of war was raging; and then Gladstone, the scholar, the writer, the peerless statesman, the "Grand Old Man of England." And yet the world, today, turns to Lincoln, first of all, among the noted ones of 1809.

### Greatness Unveiled.

Here we look upon human greatness, unveiled, and destined to stand the tests of time, because a human soul, endowed with powers immortal, suited for and called to a special work in the great world-movement, cared for, cultivated, and exercised those powers—took in the principles of his mission, digested them and made them a part of himself; then, ambitious for the goal, dared to be honest; dared to be unpopular when he knew he was right; dared to be unselfish; dared to *do* the right; dared to be true; dared to do his duty; dared to trust in God; **DARED TO BE A MAN!!**





Albert Pike



Hannibal Hamlin



Charles Darwin



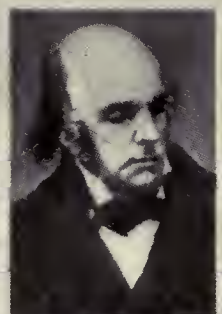
Elizabeth B. Browning



Oliver W. Holmes



ROBERT C. WINTHROP



Edward Fitzgerald



Frederick Chopin



Mendelssohn



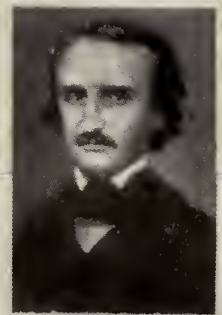
Lord Alfred Tennyson



ROBERT C. WINTHROP



W. E. Gladstone



Edgar Allan Poe

NOTABLE CHARACTERS BORN IN 1809.





## The Nation's Product.

Abraham Lincoln was the product of our free institutions. Born and reared in poverty, undaunted by defeat and unsullied by prosperity, he rose against fearful odds to the topmost point of human power. He was endowed with the qualities of greatness. He had the noblest qualities of a man, the highest requisites of a leader, the keenest instincts of a statesman, the heart and the soul of a patriot. With cool head, and clear thinking, and farsightedness, he moved steadily forward without halt or hurry. Measured by what he accomplished, he stands in the foremost rank among the greatest characters of history.

In the dark hours of our greatest danger, untried and little known, he took the Ship of State, guided her through the storm of Civil War, and brought her at last, through the crimson tempest, into the harbor of peace and universal freedom. He sought not fame, but victory for the right. Possessed of the martyr spirit, firm, unselfish, just and tenderhearted, confident, wise, cautious, fearless, but prayerful and kindly patient, he moved with care and caution lest some interest of the Nation should suffer, or some flower of humanity should be crushed.

His work was great but it was simply done. We did not understand him then; but when he left us to receive a martyr's crown, we began to realize that we had entertained a God-inspired man—an angel unawares. His rugged, quaint and gentle characteristics blend in harmony, when reflected in his spotless life, and the war-crimsoned years in

which he rose as the standard bearer, the savior of an imperiled Nation and the Emancipator of a down trodden race.

### **The Bivouac and the Crown of Honor.**

Enter with me, if you will, the Bivouac of our dead. But speak gently, tread lightly, for four hundred thousand of our martyr dead are sleeping here, and other thousands, just as brave, and just as noble, are sleeping by their side. First and foremost of this martyr band is the Lincoln of our war-scarred years; dear to us because he died for the Nation which he saved, and for the freedom of a race; and doubly dear to the Nation and to the world because of his tragic end, and the method of his death.

No ruthless hand or impious tongue may dare to desecrate that place or name, for North and South—the *Soldier South*—vie with each other in their guard, and the nations extend their watch of sympathy and admiration.

Standing by his side on that sad and fatal morning, when the great leader had breathed his last, Edward M. Stanton turned to those beside him, saying: "*Now he belongs to the ages.*" Truer and more prophetic words were never spoken. Lincoln belongs to us; he belongs to our generation; he belongs to our Country. We cannot give him up. But the whole world today claims him for the race; and has placed him in his niche of fame alongside our Washington, and among the greatest characters of all history. And the years as they roll by, and the centuries as they come and go, will add resplendant



glory to the fame of him who was Master of himself; Master of the God-inspired truth; "All men created free and equal"; Master of those arrayed against him; Master of foreign diplomats who figured in the War; Master of the great men and the noble army who helped him to do his work; Master of the Heaven-born mission committed to his trust—ABRAHAM LINCOLN.





## APPENDIX.









Executive Mansion  
Washington, Nov 21. 1864

To Mrs Bixby, Boston, Mass,

Dear Madam.

I have been shown in the files of the War Department a statement of the Adjutant General of Massachusetts that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle. I feel how weak and fruitless must be any word of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the republic they died to save. I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.

Yours very sincerely and respectfully

A. Lincoln



## APPENDIX.

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### LINCOLN'S FAREWELL ADDRESS AT SPRINGFIELD.

My friends: No one, not in my position, can realize the sadness I feel at this parting. To this people I owe all that I am. Here I have lived more than a quarter of a century. Here my children were born, and here one of them lies buried. I know not how soon I shall see you again. I go to assume a task more difficult than that which has developed upon any other man since the days of Washington. He never would have succeeded except for the aid of Divine Providence, upon which he at all times relied. I feel that I cannot succeed without the same Divine blessing which sustained him; and on the same Almighty Being I place my reliance for support. And I hope you, my friends, will all pray that I may receive that Divine assistance, without which I cannot succeed, but with which success is certain. Again, I bid you an affectionate farewell.

### FIRST INAUGURAL.—March 4, 1861.

In compliance with a custom as old as the government itself, I appear before you to address you briefly, and to take in your presence the oath prescribed by the Constitution of the United States, to be taken by the President "before he enters upon the execution of his office."

\* \* \*

Apprehension seems to exist, among the people of the Southern states, that by the accession of a Republican administration their property and their peace and personal security are to be endangered. There has never been any real cause for such apprehension. Indeed the most ample evidence to the contrary has all the while existed and been open to their inspection. \* \* \*

I hold that in contemplation of universal law, and of the Constitution, *the union of the states is perpetual*. Perpetuity is implied, if not expressed, in the fundamental law of all national governments. \* \* \*

I therefore consider that, in view of the Constitution and the laws, the Union is unbroken, and to the extent of my ability *I shall take care*, as the Constitution itself expressly enjoins upon me, *that the laws of the Union be faithfully executed in all the states*. \* \* \*

In doing this there need be no bloodshed nor violence, and there shall be none, unless it be forced upon the national authority. The power confided to me will be used to hold, and occupy, and possess the property and

places belonging to the government, and to collect the duties and imports; but beyond what may be necessary for these objects there will be no invasion, no using of force against or among the people anywhere. \* \* \*

This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing government, they can exercise the constitutional right of amending, or their revolutionary right to dismember or overthrow it. I cannot be ignorant of the fact that many worthy and patriotic citizens are desirous of having the national Constitution amended.

\* \* \*

My countrymen, one and all, think calmly and well upon this whole subject. Nothing valuable can be lost by taking time. If there be an object to hurry any of you in hot haste to a step which you would never take deliberately, that object will be frustrated by taking time; but no good object can be frustrated by it. Such of you as are now dissatisfied, still have the old Constitution unimpaired, and on the sensitive point, the laws of your own framing under it. The new administration will have no immediate power, if it would, to change either. If it were admitted that you who are dissatisfied hold the right side in the dispute, there is no single good reason for precipitate action. Intelligence, patriotism, Christianity, and a firm reliance upon Him, who has never yet forsaken this favored land, are still competent to adjust, in the best way, all our present difficulties. \* \* \*

In your hands, my dissatisfied fellow-countrymen, and not in mine, are the momentous issues of civil war. The government will not assail you.

You can have no conflict without being yourselves the aggressors. You have no oath registered in heaven to destroy the government, while I have the most solemn one to "preserve, protect, and defend it."

I am loth to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies; though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection.

The mystic chord of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

#### ADDRESS AT GETTYSBURG.—Nov. 19, 1863.

Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a



portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it far above our power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us, that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth.

#### LINCOLN'S SECOND INAUGURAL.—March 4, 1865.

Fellow Countrymen: At this second appearing to take the oath of the Presidential office there is less occasion for an extended address than there was at the first. Then a statement, somewhat in detail, of a course to be pursued seemed fitting and proper. Now, at the expiration of four years, during which public declarations have been constantly called forth on every point and phase of the great contest which still absorbs the attention and engrosses the energies of the nation, little that is new can be presented. The progress of our arms, upon which all else chiefly depends, is as well known to the public as to myself; and it is, I trust, reasonably satisfactory and encouraging to all. With high hope for the future, no prediction in regard to it is ventured.

On the occasion corresponding to this four years ago, all thoughts were anxiously directed to an impending civil war. All dreaded it—all sought to avert it. While the inaugural address was being delivered from this place, devoted altogether to saving the Union without war, insurgent agents were in the city seeking to destroy it without war—seeking to dissolve the Union, and divide effects, by negotiation. Both parties deprecated war; but one of them would make war rather than let the nation survive, and the other would accept war rather than let it perish. And the war came.

One-eighth of the whole population were colored slaves, not distributed generally over the Union, but localized in the Southern part of it. These slaves constituted a peculiar and powerful interest. All knew that this interest was, somehow, the cause of the war. To strengthen, perpetuate, and extend this interest was the object for which the insurgents would rend the Union, even by war; while the government claimed no



right to do more than to restrict the territorial enlargement of it.

Neither party expected for the war the magnitude or the duration which it has already attained. Neither anticipated that the cause of the conflict might cease with, or even before, the conflict itself should cease. Each looked for an easier triumph, and a result less fundamental and astounding. Both read the same Bible and pray to the same God; and each invokes His aid against the other. It may seem strange that any men should dare to ask a just God's assistance in wringing their bread from the sweat of other men's faces; but let us judge not, that we be not judged. The prayers of both could not be answered—that of neither has been answered fully.

The Almighty has His own purposes. "Wo unto the world because of offenses! for it must needs be that offenses come; but wo to that man by whom the offense cometh." If we shall suppose that American slavery is one of those offenses which, in the providence of God, must needs come, but which, having continued through His appointed time, He now wills to remove, and that He gives to both North and South this terrible war, as the wo due to those by whom the offense came, shall we discern therein any departure from those divine attributes which the believers in a living God always ascribe to Him? Fondly do we hope—fervently do we pray—that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it shall continue until all the wealth piled up by the bondsman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn with the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said, "The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether."

With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations.

#### LETTER TO ERASTUS CORNING.

In our judgment, one of the great masterpieces of Lincoln has had but little notice, comparatively, in books or from the press. I refer to the letter written June 12th, 1863, to Erastus Corning of New York, in answer to resolutions passed in a public meeting at Albany, New York, touching the suspension of "*habeas corpus*" in the case of the military arrest of C. L. Vallandigham. In a few words Mr. Lincoln answers the document sent by Mr. Corning, and then adds: "And here I ought to close this paper, and would close it, if there were no apprehension that more injurious conse-

quences than any merely personal to myself might follow the censures systematically cast upon me for doing what, in my view of duty, I could not forbear." He proceeds with one of the most masterly delineations of political principles, and dissection of treasonable activities,, ever unfolded in its line, perhaps, in our National history. No attempt was made by Mr. Corning or any one else to answer this letter. We must content ourselves here with a mere extract of the letter. "He (Vallandigham) was not arrested because he was damaging the political prospects of the administration or the personal interests of the commanding General (Burnside), but because he was damaging the army, upon the existence and vigor of which the life of the Nation depends. He was warring upon the military, and this gave the military constitutional jurisdiction to lay hands upon him. If Vallandigham was not damaging the military power of the country, then his arrest was made on mistake of fact, which I would be glad to correct on reasonably satisfactory evidence.

"I understand the meeting whose resolutions I am considering to be in favor of suppressing the rebellion by military force—by armies. Long experience has shown that armies cannot be maintained unless desertion shall be punished by the severe penalty of death. The case requires, and the law and the Constitution sanction, this punishment. Must I shoot a simple-minded soldier boy who deserts, while I must not touch a hair of a wily agitator who induces him to desert?" (*Addresses & c. 11, 349.*)

#### LINCOLN'S FAVORITE POEM.\*

O why should the spirit of mortal be proud?  
Like a swift-fleeting meteor, a fast flying cloud,  
A flash of the lightning, a break of the wave,  
He passeth from life to his rest in the grave.

The leaves of the oak and the willow shall fade,  
Be scattered around, and together be laid;  
And the young and the old, and the low and the high,  
Shall molder to dust, and together shall lie.

The infant a mother attended and loved;  
The mother that infant's affection who proved;  
The husband that mother and infant who blest—  
Each, all, are away to their dwellings of rest.

The maid on whose cheek, on whose brow, in whose eye,  
Shone beauty and pleasure—her triumphs are by;  
And the memory of those who loved her and praised,  
Are alike from the minds of the living erased.

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\*Lincoln's favorite poem is here given because it reflects, as in a mirror, much of his reserve, thought, and character.



The hand of the king that the scepter hath borne;  
The brow of the priest that the miter hath worn;  
The eye of the sage, and the heart of the brave,  
Are hidden and lost in the depths of the grave.

The peasant, whose lot was to sow and to reap;  
The herdsman, who climbed with his goats up the steep;  
The beggar, who wandered in search of his bread,  
Have faded away, like the grass that we tread.

The saint, who enjoyed the communion of heaven;  
The sinner, who dared to remain unforgiven;  
The wise and the foolish, the guilty and just,  
Have quietly mingled their bones in the dust.

So the multitude goes—like the flower of the weed,  
That withers away to let others succeed;  
So the multitude comes—even those we behold,  
To repeat every tale that has often been told.

For we are the same our fathers have been;  
We see the same sights our fathers have seen;  
We drink the same stream, we view the same sun,  
And run the same course our fathers have run.

The thoughts we are thinking, our fathers would think;  
From the death we are shrinking our fathers would  
shrink;  
To the life we are clinging, they also would cling;  
But it speeds from us all like a bird on the wing.

They loved—but the story we can not unfold;  
They scorned—but the heart of the haughty is cold;  
They grieved—but no wail from their slumber will come;  
They joyed—but the tongue of their gladness is dumb.

They died—ay, they died—we things that are now,  
That walk on the turf that lies over their brow,  
And make in their dwellings a transient abode,  
Meet the things that they met on their pilgrimage road.

Yea! hope and despondency, pleasure and pain,  
Are mingled together in sunshine and rain;  
And the smile and the tear, the song and the dirge,  
Still follow each other, like surge upon surge.

'Tis the wink of an eye, 'tis the draught of a breath,  
From the blossom of health to the paleness of death,  
From the gilded saloon to the bier and the shroud—  
O why should the spirit of mortal be proud?

—William Knox.



Appendix 63.  
ENGINEER DEPARTMENT  
HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC  
July 28th 1864





## TRIBUTES.

### *Authors and Statesmen.*

As a child, in a dark night, on a rugged way, catches hold of the hand of its father for guidance and support, Lincoln clung fast to the hand of the people and moved calmly through the gloom. \* \* \* He finished a work which all time cannot overthrow.—*George Bancroft.*

That swarthy face, with its strong features, its deep furrows, and its benignant melancholy eyes, is familiar to every American. \* \* \* Everybody in the civilized world knows and loves him. \* \* \* The sureness of his outlook and the courageous firmness of his attitude proves that he was not a mere follower of other men's minds, but leader in the truest sense of the term.—*Carl Schurz.*

Lincoln's monument is not at Springfield by the Sangamon, but everywhere in the hearts of the American people; in the hearts of the millions of Freed men, among whom will always be cherished the name of Lincoln, the emancipator of the colored race in the United States.—*Wm. H. Upham—ex-Gov., Wis.*

Mr. Lincoln became the leader of a great and powerful party. \* \* \* He was called by the American people to lead them out from the domination of an arrogant section. He was true to his mission, and died the death of a martyr.—*General John M. Palmer.*

Lincoln is certainly the most sagacious and far-seeing statesman in the annals of American history. \* \* \* He was the greatest man of his time. History abundantly proves his superiority as a leader, and establishes his constant reliance upon a higher power for guidance and support. The tendency of this age is to exaggeration, but of him none have spoken more highly than those who knew him best. \* \* \* Lincoln is not far removed from us;—not surrounded by the mists of antiquity;—not by a halo of idolatry that is impenetrable. \* \* \* His name has leaped the bounds of party and country and now belongs to mankind and to the ages,—prophet and master without a rival in the greatest crisis of our history. \* \* \* The martyr of liberty, the emancipator of a race. His deeds will live in human history forever.—*Pres. William McKinley.*

Lincoln saw into the future with the prophetic imagination usually vouchsafed only to the poet and the seer. \* \* \* He had the practical man's hard common sense. No more practical man ever lived than this homely backwoods idealist. This nation will grow to feel a peculiar sense of pride in the man whose blood was shed for the Union and for the freedom of a race; the lover of his country and of all mankind; the mightiest of the mighty men who mastered the mighty days.—*Theodore Roosevelt.*



\* \* \* Lincoln is one of the great men of this country, a very able lawyer, a most skillful and eloquent orator,—a great statesman.—*Stephen A. Douglas.*

He whom the nation loved and lamented was called to his high station at a most portentous crisis, at the commencement of a war almost without a parallel in human history. \* \* \* His noble qualities inspired general confidence and commanded general respect, and his successful administration will be evidence, in all time to come, of his own worth and the wisdom of his measures.—*Lewis Cass.*

If that high eulogium (pronounced by Macaulay on Washington, in his essay on Hampden) was fully earned, we doubt if it has not been as well earned by the Illinois peasant-proprietor and "village lawyer," whom, by some Divine inspiration of Providence, the Republican caucus of 1860 substituted for Mr. Seward as their nominee for the President's chair. \* \* \* Finding himself the object of abuse so fierce and so foul \* \* \*; Mocked at for his official awkwardness, and denounced for his steadfast policy \* \* \*; tried by years of failure before that policy achieved a single great success. Further tried by a series of successes so rapid and brilliant that they would have puffed up a smaller mind and upset its balance; beset by fanatics of principle on the one hand \* \* \* and by fanatics of caste on the other \* \* \* Mr. Lincoln has persevered through all without ever giving away to anger, or despondency, or exultation, or popular arrogance, or sectarian fanaticism, or caste prejudice, visibly growing in force of character, in self-possession and in magnanimity, till in his last message to Congress, on the 4th of March, we can detect no longer the rude and illiterate mold of a village lawyer's thought, but find it replaced by a grasp of principle, a dignity of manner, and solemnity of purpose which would have been unworthy neither of Hampden nor of Cromwell, while his gentleness and generosity of feeling towards his foes are almost greater than we should expect from either of them. \* \* \* We doubt if any politician has even shown less personal ambition and a larger power of trust.—*Spectator, London.*

He stands apart in striking solitude, an enigma to all men. \* \* \* Let us take him simply as Abraham Lincoln, singular and solitary as we all see that he was; let us be thankful if we can make a niche big enough for him among the world's heroes, without worrying ourselves about the proportion which it may bear to other niches; and there let him remain, forever, lonely, as in his strange life-time, impressive, mysterious, unmeasured and unsolved.—*John T. Morse.*

Mr. Lincoln was no ordinary man. I believe that the hand of God may be traced in many of the events connected with his history, and that he was specially singled out to guide our government in these troublesome times.

\* \* \* His greatness, in mental characteristics, rested on a quick and ready perception of facts; on a memory unusually retentive; on a logical turn of mind, which followed, sternly and unwaveringly, every link in the chain of thought on every subject he was called to investigate. \* \* \* His moral powers gave him pre-eminence,—His moral integrity gave him his hold on the people. \* \* \* The great act on which his fame shall rest long after his frame shall moulder away, is that of giving freedom to a race. \* \* \*—Abraham Lincoln was a good man; known as an honest, temperate, forgiving, just man. He believed in Christ, the Savior of sinners, and I believe was sincere in trying to bring his life in harmony with revealed religion.—As a ruler I doubt if any President has ever shown such trust in God.—*Bishop Simpson*.

The American nation, the American truths, of which our President was the anointed and supreme embodiment, have been embodied in multitudes of heroes, who marched unknown and fell unnoticed in our ranks. \* \* \* God brought him up as He brought David up from the sheepfold to feed Jacob, his inheritance.—The gentlest, kindest, most indulgent man that ever ruled a State. He lived as he did, and he died as he did, because he was what he was.—*Phillips Brooks*.

Down the ages this will be the legend of America: Lincoln saved the Union.—*Archbishop Ireland*.

Abraham Lincoln is the apotheosis of American manhood.—*Dr. Chas. Edward Locke*.

He was the gentlest President in American history, because in a time of revolution he comprehended the spirit of American institutions, grasped the purpose of the American people, and embodied them in an act of justice and humanity.—*Lyman Abbott*.

Mr. Lincoln is the best man I ever knew.—*Rev. Dr. H. W. Bellows*.

Abraham Lincoln's greatness and work lay in his simple manhood.—*Robert Collyer*.

Few men in the world's history have been privileged to do work involving so much benefit to mankind.—*Newman Hall*.

There is no side but Abraham Lincoln's side.—*Winston Churchill*.

Measured by what he did, he towered from his girth up above every other mere man for six thousand years.—*Bishop Charles H. Fowler*.

Had there been no Lincoln, the sun would have set forever upon the work of Washington.—*Dr. James M. Buckley*.

By the side of Armstrong and Garrison, Lincoln lives today. In the very highest sense he lives in the present more potentially than fifty years ago.—*Booker T. Washington*.



Every element of Lincoln's public career is enriched by the setting of his private life and personal work. \* \* \* He was human in the highest and best sense of the word. \* \* \* His devotion to his wife and children was as abiding and unbounded as his love of country.—*Hon. George W. Julian.*

President Lincoln was a large and many sided man, and yet so simple that no one, not even a child, could approach him without feeling that he had found in him a sympathising friend. \* \* \* He was, in my judgment, the greatest man our country has produced.—*Judge William D. Kelley.*

Mr. Lincoln came very near being a perfect man according to my ideal of manhood. \* \* \* He is beyond question the master mind of the Cabinet.—*Judge Edward Bates (Atty. Gen. Lincoln Cabinet).*

Homely, honest, ungainly Lincoln is the representative man of the country. \* \* \* The typical American pure and simple.—*Prof. Asa Gray.*

Lincoln surpassed all orators in eloquence; all diplomats in wisdom; all statesmen in foresight; all the most ambitious in fame.—*Hon. John J. Ingalls.*

I doubt whether man, woman or child, white or black, bond or free, virtuous or vicious, ever accosted, or reached forth a hand to Abraham Lincoln and detected in his countenance or manner any repugnance or shrinking from the proffered contact, any assumption of superiority or betrayal of disdain. \* \* \* Other men were helpful and nobly did their part; yet looking back through the lifting mists of those seven eventful, tragic, trying, glorious years, I clearly discern the one Providential leader, the indispensable hero of the great drama, Abraham Lincoln.—*Horace Greely.*

The true representative of this continent; an entirely public man; father of his country; the pulse of 20,000,000 throbbing in his heart, the thought of their minds articulated by their tongues.—*Oliver Wendell Holmes.*

Perhaps none of our Presidents since Washington has stood so firm in the confidence of the people as Lincoln, after three years' stormy administration. \* \* \* A profound common sense is the best genius for statesmanship. Hitherto the wisdom of the President's measures has been justified by the fact that they always resulted in more firmly uniting public opinion.—*James Russell Lowell (Atlantic, Dec. 1863).*

Abraham Lincoln was born in obscurity, reared in want and poverty and denied educational advantages, and yet he stands today as the great colossal figure of his age and time. \* \* \* We knew him when we gave him to mankind. The world knows him now.—*Dr. E. Hursh (Chicago).*

He left upon the age the mighty impress of his virtues and his deeds.—*Judge Arthur H. Chetlain (Chicago).*





ENGINEER OFFICE 10<sup>TH</sup> ARMY CORPS, VA.  
June 15, 1864  
Official: *J.B. Brooks*  
Maj. AD. C. and Directing Engineer.

ENGINEER OFFICE 10<sup>TH</sup> ARMY CORPS,  
SKETCH NO. 8.  
OF  
ROAD BETWEEN  
BERMUDA HUNDRED  
AND  
ENEMY'S FIRST LINE OF INTRENCHMENTS  
ON THE NORTH  
AND  
PETERSBURG  
ON THE SOUTH.

Accompanying report of Brig. Gen. G. W. Smith, 10<sup>th</sup> Army  
and Capt. P. S. Mather, Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army  
SERIES I VOL. 1, PART 1, PAGES 875 AND 876

Position  
Intrenchment  
Scale of Miles  
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



I knew him as a boy may know a President who was never too busy to greet him kindly, to muss his hair, to pull his ears, and to say gentle, tender words of the father who had but lately passed away.—Through all these years the wondrous sweetness of that beautiful, ugly face has never left my memory.—*Stephen A. Douglas, Jr.*

It is the province of a physician to probe deeply the interior lives of men; and I affirm that Mr. Lincoln is the purest hearted man with whom I ever came in contact.—*Dr. Robert K. Stone, Lincoln's family physician.*

The mission of all great men, of all heroes, who are looked upon almost as demigods, passes away. The President of the Republic is suddenly struck down at the moment of his triumph. \* \* \* Lincoln, a martyr to the principles which he represented, now belongs to history and to posterity,—As the champion of freedom in America, Lincoln drew, without hesitation, the sword of the Republic, and with the point thereof erased from the firm code that anti-social stigma, that blasphemy against human nature, the sad, shameful, infamous codicil of antiquated societies, the dark and repugnant abuse of slavery \* \* \* and as the stars of the Union waved triumphant over the fallen ramparts of Petersburg and Richmond—the grave opens, and the strong and the powerful fall to rise no more.—Great man—I purposely repeat *great man*—the man who makes himself great by his own acts and by his own genius is more to be envied than he who was born among inherited escutcheons of nobility. Lincoln belongs to that privileged race—to that aristocracy. As a legislator and in Congress, he prepared to become one day the popular chief of many millions, the defender of the holy principles which Wilberforce inaugurated.—Trampling down the thorns in his path, guiding his steps amid the tears and the blood of so many holocausts, he still lives to see the promised land.—The great athlete stepped into the ring and fell—a martyr to the noble principles of which this noble epoch has reason to be proud. \* \* \* A good citizen and a great Magistrate, who, himself, piloted his people through terrible tempests, and succeeded in leading them in triumph over the fallen ramparts of slavery's stronghold.—*L. A. Rebello da Silva (House of Peers, Lisbon).*

In all the exigencies of civil war, this upright patriot had but one purpose in view, to respect his oath of fidelity to the Constitution, to prevent the dismemberment of the great Republic, to efface the only stain upon its flag—slavery. This is what Abraham Lincoln has realized; he has accomplished this gigantic task, without harm to the liberty of the people, with probity and energy in the choice of means, with moderation and generosity towards the vanquished.—*People of Geneva, Switzerland, to people of U. S. A.*



Abraham Lincoln, the mighty leader of these great events, the manly model of civic virtue, of pure and noble humanity, will be held holy in the memory of the inhabitants of his native land, and be worshipped by the world.—*Johanne Pflster, Buren-Berne, Switzerland. (Teacher.)*

Abraham Lincoln, one of the greatest men who ever lived upon this earth.—*John Kilchman, Lucerne. (In the Bund.)*

Abraham Lincoln,—the man with the brow of iron and the heart of gold. \* \* \* When men in after years shall commemorate Good Friday as the death-day of their holy Redeemer, they will remember it as the day of martyrdom for his truest disciple, the liberator of millions of slaves, the noble paragon of virtue and humanity—Abraham Lincoln.—*The Manerchor, Berne, Switz.*

Lincoln had the most notable combination of sadness and mirth that I ever met with in any of our public men.—I have never known any man who had greater reverence for God than Abraham Lincoln. \* \* \* I am quite sure that no man could have filled Lincoln's place during the Civil war with equal safety to the Republic—His ablest political enemies ever paid the highest tributes, not only to his personal attributes, but to his masterly ability.—I learned not only to respect, but, indeed, to reverence the man.—*Col. Alexander K. McClure.*

Lincoln had a spirit touched to fine issues.—*John M. Scovel.*

Next to the destruction of the Confederacy, the death of Abraham Lincoln was the darkest day the South has ever known.—*Jefferson Davis.* (Said to A. KL. McClure, 10 years after Lincoln's death.)

There is no other name in America today so effective and worthy of being used when we would censure the noble, the open, and the tender in human nature.—*Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones.*

The greatest man in the world has just died.—*Jane Addams' father* (As recalled by her).

The phenomenon of history.—*Burke Cockeran.*

The President is, without exception, the tenderest hearted man I ever saw.—*Judge Joseph Holt* (Sec. of War under Buchanan).

A man most worthy of memory in the history of our country.—*S. S. McClure.*

Well, we might have done a more brilliant thing but we could hardly have done a better thing.—*Judge Kelley* to Carl Schurz on leaving Lincoln's home after notification.

He overspread a continent with his pity.—*Arthur H. Gleason.*

He had an abiding faith in his own convictions, but a world of charity for the views of others.—*John W. Smith.*

Mr. Lincoln is the only white man with whom I have ever talked, or in whose presence I have even been, who did not consciously or unconsciously betray, to me, that he recognized my color. \* \* \* The simple approached him with ease, and the learned approached him with deference. Take him for all in all, Abraham Lincoln was one of the noblest, wisest and best men I ever knew. *Frederick Douglass.*

Abraham Lincoln was essentially a thinker who had the courage of his convictions. \* \* \* Having been placed by fortune in the proper sphere of action, he showed he was a truly great man.—*Abraham Hewitt.*

Mr. Lincoln's life was one of true patriotism, and his character one of honesty and of the highest type of religious sentiment.—*Alexander Ramsey.*

He was a noble, whole-souled, tender-hearted man. He was a model President of this model Republic.—*P. T. Barnum.*

It is my humble judgment, that in all the positions the great crisis forced him into he was a perfect fit.—*J. M. Bailey.*

#### BRITISH PRESS.

\* \* \* He governed with an ability which even his adversaries have not been the last to admit. \* \* \* His management of state affairs has illuminated a brighter page in the history of his country than any which has been emblazoned since the death of Washington.—(*Gateshead Observer, April 29, 1865.*)

Poor Abraham Lincoln—"honest Abe"—the simple, the noble, the true-hearted; as blunt and unaffected, as simple-hearted, kindly and playful in his high position as President of the United States as ever he had been, in earlier days, when he drove his team through the forests of Illinois! The people of this country had all come to love him.—(*Glasgow Herald, May 1st, 1865.*)

Mr. Lincoln slowly won for himself the respect and confidence of all. His perfect honesty speedily became apparent. \* \* \* His utterances were apparently careless, but his tongue was always under command. \* \* \* —(*London Times, April 27, 1865.*)

\* \* \* History will record the name of Abraham Lincoln as that of a pure and disinterested patriot. \* \* \* She will speak also of the virtues which the hard experience of early life had strengthened in him; of his large, humane, and tender sympathies; of his self-



control and good temper; of truthfulness and sturdy honesty. \* \* \* She will represent him as possessed with deep moral earnestness, and as endowed with vigorous common sense and faculty for dealing with affairs. \* \* \* Rising from the poorest of the people, winning his slow way upward by sheer hard work, preserving in every successive stage a character unspotted and a name untainted, never pretending to more than he was, nor being less than he professed himself, he was at length placed in the chair of President, at the turning point of his nation's history \* \* \* Never was any one, set in such high place and surrounded with so many motives of furious detraction, so little impeached of aught blameworthy. \* \* \* He had an intellect as well as goodness. Cautiously conservative, fearing to pass the limits of established systems, seeking the needful amendments rather from growth than alteration, he proved himself in the crisis the very man best suited for his post. \* \* \* The firmness with which he refused to proceed faster than the progress of events warranted was equaled by the tenacity with which he refused to retire from the position he had at last thought it right to take up.—(*London Daily News*, April 27, 1865.)

It is given to few men to triumph over the most formidable obstacles as Mr. Lincoln triumphed, by the mere force of honesty and sagacity. His simple integrity of purpose, firmness of will, patience, humanity, and the deep sense of accountability which marked every important act, united to form a character which has steadily and visibly gained upon the minds and hearts, not of his own countrymen alone, but also of the world. \* \* \* In this country Mr. Lincoln's name is mentioned with regret by many who four years ago half believed that he was the wretched imbecile he was described to be by the Richmond press.—(*London Daily News*, April 27, 1865.)

His reputation is based upon tried goodness and proven greatness. \* \* \* He was raised up in a season of danger to be a guide to the State in its difficulties and perils. With steady and unfaltering purpose he fulfilled his allotted task. \* \* \* In the midst of the raging storm of battle, when all the land was convulsed; \* \* \* and at the no less dangerous crisis when the tide of victory set in, \* \* \* he was true to his duty, and true to that high mission from which his sense of duty derived its inspiration. Fearless in danger, unshaken in adversity, hopeful when the bravest all but despaired; calm amidst the wild contagious excitement of success; as imperturbable in the general ecstasies produced by triumph as he was resolute in the general despondency produced by misfortune, he displayed from first to last the rare qualities of a good man and a wise ruler. His simplicity of character was mistaken for ignorance; his firmness of purpose was characterized



NO. 2.  
 SKETCH OF ROAD  
 FROM  
 PONTOON-BRIDGE  
 AT  
 POINT OF ROCKS  
 TO  
 PETERSBURG,  
 SHOWING  
 LINE OF WORKS  
 CAPTURED BY 8TH ARMY CORPS.

Scale  
 0 1 2 3 Mile

EXPLANATION

— Union Rifle-pits  
 — Rebel Rifle-pits





as obstinacy; his perseverance was regarded as infatuation. \* \* \* Lincoln had not fallen before the cause to which he devoted his life had been rendered secure.—(*Ulster Observer, Belfast, April 27, 1865.*)

When President Lincoln penned the sentence which liberated forever millions of his fellow creatures from bondage, and gave the deathblow to slavery throughout the world, he did an act which entitled him to everlasting fame.—(*Ulster Observer, Belfast, April 27, 1865.*)

The civilized world regarded with admiration the magnanimity which rose spontaneously, with the haughtiness of virtue, in the breast of the Northern people, and turned the occasion of victory into an opportunity to display, not merely mercy, but of brotherly sympathy and love.—(*Ulster Observer, Belfast, April 27, 1865.*)

We had a deep respect and love for this man, who, quietly and unpretendingly, was doing a great work. If he was not a man of brilliant qualities or showy accomplishments, yet he possessed great grasp and force of intellect, honesty and singleness of purpose, unsullied integrity, unshaken perseverance, firmness in authority, an ambition utterly unselfish, the qualities, in short, which go to make the truest and noblest patriot.—(*Bradford Review, April 29, 1865.*)

All lament the good and great statesman. We doubt whether modern history contains a grander character than the humble lawyer of Illinois. In genius and a deep insight into the political future Abraham Lincoln was far from deficient. In high moral qualities he was unsurpassed by any public character of the age. His hands were as free from corruption as his generous soul was indisposed to harshness. \* \* \* His public virtues shone out as brightly as his private worth, and both made him the best beloved man in the United States.—(*The Freeman's Journal, Dublin, April 28, 1865.*)

In an age teeming with intellectual genius and refinement, Abraham Lincoln, the humble woodman, was called to play an arduous, noble, and conspicuous part in the great drama of civilization and progress.—(*Dublin Reformer, April 29, 1865.*)

\* \* \* Intense admiration we have ever had of the calm, Christian, enlightened statesmanship of "honest old Abe," his firm and inflexible determination to abide by the Constitution of his country, and at the same time to blot out, through that Constitution, the infamous system and institution of slavery.—(*Caledonian Mercury, Edinburgh, April 27, 1865.*)

To us Abraham Lincoln has always seemed the finest character produced by the American war, on either side of the struggle. He was great not merely by the force of genius—and only the word genius will describe the



power of intellect by which he guided himself and his country through such a crisis—but by the simple, natural strength and grandeur of his character. \* \* \* He seemed to arrive by instinct—by the instinct of a noble, unselfish and manly nature—at the very end which the highest of political genius, the longest political experience, could have done no more than reach. He bore himself fearlessly in danger, calmly in difficulty, modestly in success. The world was beginning to know how good, and, in the best sense, how great a man he was.—(*London Morning Star*, April 27, 1865.)

Raised from the ranks of the common people to take upon himself the responsibilities of the most gigantic struggle the world has ever witnessed between the forces of freedom and slavery, he guided the destinies of his country with unwavering hand through all the terrors and dangers of the conflict, and placed her so high and safe among the nations of the world that the dastards of despotism dare no longer question the strength and majesty of freedom.—*London Morning Star*.

He boasted not of victory nor sought to arrogate to himself the honors of the great deeds which have resounded through the world; but gentle and modest as he was great and good, he took the chaplet from his own brow to place it on the lowly graves of the soldiers.—(*London Morning Star*, Apr. 27.)

In truth a man like Abraham Lincoln is claimed by humanity as her own.—*London Morning Star*, April 27.

Only Washington among the Presidents of the United States could compare with Lincoln.—*The Spectator*, April 29, 1865.

If there ever was a leader in a civil conflict who shunned acrimony and eschewed passion, it was he. In a time of much cant and affectation, he was simple, unaffected, true, transparent. In a season of many mistakes he was never known to be wrong.—*Liverpool Daily Post*, April 27, 1865.

The memory of his statesmanship, translucent in the highest degree \* \* \* will live in the hearts and minds of the Anglo-Saxon race as one of the noblest examples of that race's highest qualities. \* \* \* Add to this that Abraham Lincoln was the kindest and pleasantest of men; that he has raised himself from nothing, and that to the last no grain of conceit or ostentation was found in him, and there stands before the world a man whose like we shall not soon look again.—*Liverpool Daily Post*, April 27, 1865.

As a man of great good sense and cool judgment, he was able to read the signs of the times with more clearness than most of his contemporaries, and thus acquiring the rare faculty of not only doing the right thing but of doing the right thing at the right time.—*Leeds Mercury*, April 27, 1865.

## DIPLOMATS.

His firm and consistent maintenance of the Nation's cause, his clear understanding of the great questions at issue, and his unwearied efforts, while enforcing the laws, to deprive the conflict of all bitterness, were all so happily blended with a reliance upon Divine Providence as to elevate him to a high rank among successful statesmen. His name is, hereafter, identified with emancipation.—*S. Wells Williams*, (*U. S. Minister to China*, 1865.)

If there is anything wanting, to complete the fame of Lincoln, it may be found in the crown of martyrdom with which an eventful career in a most eventful epoch has been closed, honored for his virtues, and lamented for his "taking off."—*James E. Harvey*, (*Ambassador to Portugal*), 1865.

\* \* \* The great and good man, who died as he had lived—faithful to his trust and at the post of duty. \* \* \* In Europe, as in America, enlightened public opinion has already inscribed among the most illustrious names on the roll of fame our martyred President.—*Rufus King*, (*U. S. Legation at Rome*, 1865.)

The death of this Chief Magistrate, elevated by the force of great events to a place in history not less than that of every other human name which the annals of the race records, and filling that broad place worthily, has sent a shock of horror through Europe. \* \* \* Speaking from Europe, I may say: Already that assassin blow has done more to finish up the sympathies of men for the defenders of slavery and oligarchy than all that has happened before or since. \* \* \* The night of April 14th, 1865, has dispelled forever the mistaken sympathies which the audacity of April 13, 1861, generated, and has left the enemies of human progress naked before the world. This in Europe \* \* \* A citizen President triumphant over the slaveholding patrician element, but himself obedient to law, is the result of our people's virtue and his own—God's instrument in a work which makes his name immortal.—*Horatio J. Perry*, (*U. S. Minister to Spain*.)

Widespread was the fame achieved by President Lincoln, and earnest was the admiration felt for the services he had rendered to his race and to his country, even in this remote corner of Europe. He had won the respect and admiration of the world by the successful issue of the



struggle he had directed against that foe, alike of humanity and America—Southern slavery—\* \* \* His name and fame will be inseparably associated with the great events in which he was so conspicuous an actor. \* \* \* He fell a victim to his devotion to the cause of liberty and human rights, and he will take his place in history among the martyrs whom universal humanity honors as its benefactors. President Lincoln's course of action had been so honorable to himself, and so useful to his country, that he had won even the respect of the enemies of the noble cause he championed. He lived long enough to refute the calumnies of his foreign assailants, and to confound the wicked schemes of domestic traitors. \* \* \* His steady perseverance in the cause of right, his unshaken faith in ultimate success, and the stern loyalty he exhibited to the Constitution, astonished the European world and enforced its admiration of one of the grandest exhibitions of moral courage and of conscientious discharge of duty to be found in ancient or modern history.—*E. Joy Morris, (U. S. Minister at Constantinople.)*

In the raging of political tornadoes, he bore himself with the passionless calm of some abstraction and divested of prejudice or favor devoted himself to the large ends of human freedom and national life. I feel that his death was the seal of the deeds of his life, and he closed his eyes on great purposes achieved to open them upon the immortal crown.—*James H. Campbell, (Minister resident, Stockholm.)*

The millions of America who loved Mr. Lincoln as a father and revered him as the purest and greatest of patriotic statesmen, could scarcely have mourned him more profoundly than did the masses in Europe. Especially dear was he to the citizens of this little republic of Switzerland. \* \* \* The events of his life, and the moment and manner of his death will enshrine him in the pantheon of history as the most illustrious character.—*George G. Fogg, (Resident Minister, Berne, Switzerland, 1865.)*

The royal government is profoundly moved by the intelligence which reached us yesterday of the assassination of President Lincoln. In view of the so happily existing relations between Prussia and the United States, the undersigned cannot forbear to express to their government the sincere sympathy of the royal government.—*Otto von Bismarck, Berlin, April 27th, 1865.*

The man who accomplished such great deeds from the simple desire conscientiously to perform his duty, the man who never wished to be more nor less than the most faithful servant of the people,—the man will find his own glorious place in the pages of history. In the deep-



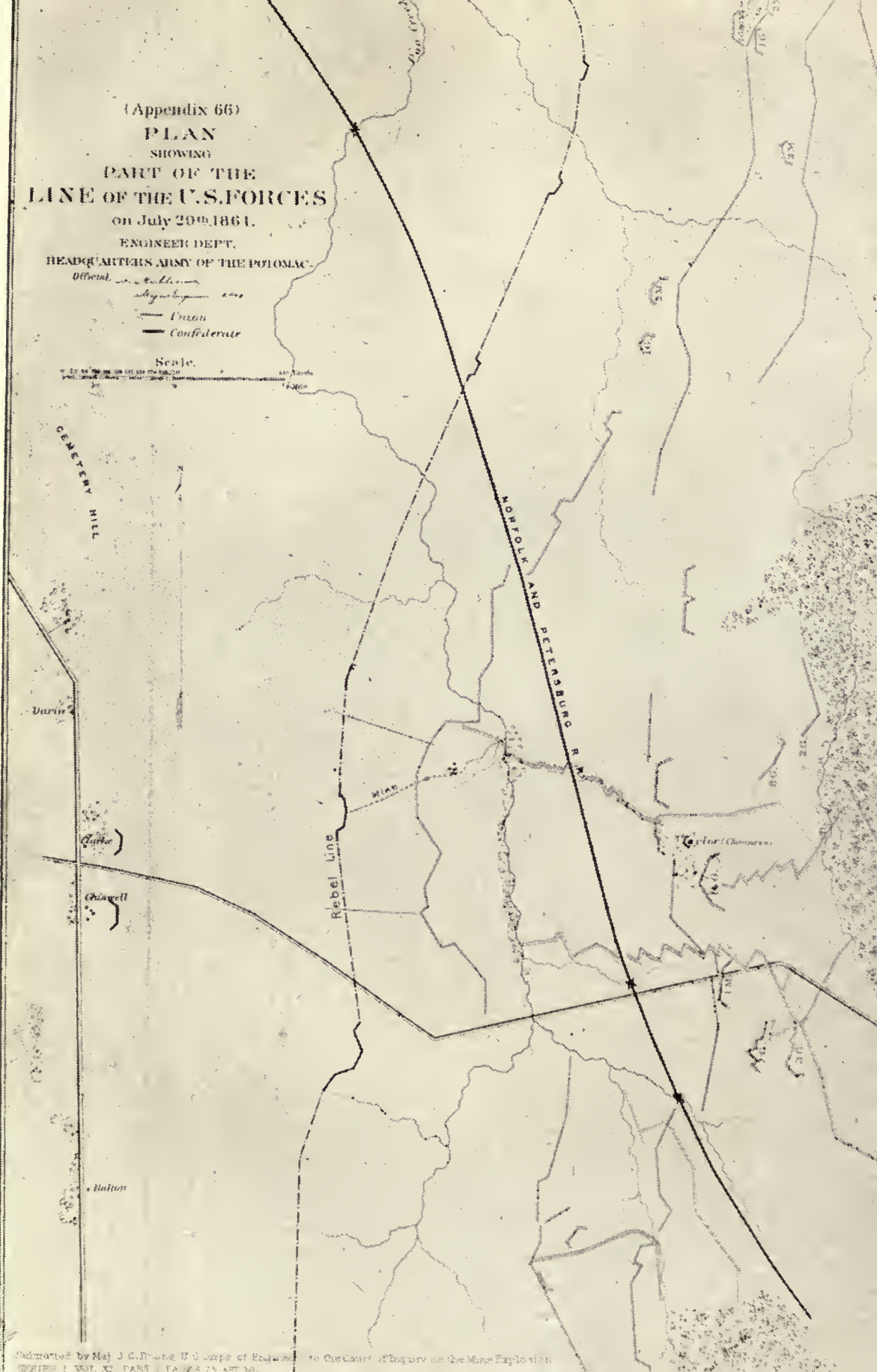
(Appendix 66)  
**PLAN**  
 SHOWING  
**PART OF THE**  
**LINE OF THE U.S. FORCES**  
 on July 20<sup>th</sup> 1864.

ENGINEER DEPT.  
 HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC

*Official*  
*Signature*  
 — Union  
 — Confederate

Scale.

0 20 40 60 80 100 120 140 160 180 200 220 240 260 280 300 320 340 360 380 400 420 440 460 480 500 520 540 560 580 600 620 640 660 680 700 720 740 760 780 800 820 840 860 880 900 920 940 960 980 1000





est reverence I bow my head before this modest greatness, and I think it is especially agreeable to the spirit of our nation, to pay the tribute of veneration to such greatness, exalted as it is by simplicity and modesty.—*Deputy Dr. William Loewe, Prussian House of Deputies.*

Whatever may have been done in the United States, Mr. Lincoln is being canonized in Europe. A like unanimity of eulogy of sovereigns, parliaments, corporate bodies, by the people, and by all public journals, was never before witnessed on this continent. The most truthful and eloquent testimonials are now given by some of those that belled him most while living.—*Berlin, May 4th. N. B. Judd, U. S. Minister to Prussia, to Mr. Hunter, Wash.*

The very high qualities which had adorned the illustrious dead, \* \* \* had won for him throughout the world, and particularly in this republic, the purest sympathy and admiration.—*Juan Antonio Pezet, President of Peru. Lima, Peru, May 28, 1865.*

\* \* \* All peoples in both hemispheres rise with one voice to condemn the cowardly assassins who have blackened the brilliant pages of that wonderful war just when the country already saw peace on the horizon, and when, undoubtedly, that peace is owing to the efforts, the constancy, and the skill with which the lamented Mr. Lincoln has directed those events.—*Count of Vistahermosa—in and, in behalf of the Spanish Senate.*

Mr. Lincoln's firm and resolute character, his good common sense, and his associations, acquired general esteem for him in Europe.—*Count Manderstrom, Minister Foreign Affairs, Stockholm, Sweden.*

Abraham Lincoln, the mighty leader of these great events, the manly model of civic virtue, of pure and noble humanity, will be held holy in the memory of the inhabitants of his native land, and be worshipped by the world.—*Buren, June 5th, 1865. Johann Pfister, in behalf of Swiss People.*

That which won for Mr. Lincoln most admiration in Europe was his modesty in expression and firmness in action. \* \* \* Lincoln was the best friend I ever had. He was the most conscientious man I ever knew, and ranks with Washington in genius, public service and patriotism.—*Cassius M. Clay, Ambassador, Russia.*

The name of Abraham Lincoln will be cherished so long as we have a history, as one of the wisest, purest, and noblest magistrates, as one of the greatest benefactors to the human race that have ever lived. I believed that the foundation of his whole character was a devotion to duty which enabled him to discharge the functions of his



great office, in one of the most terrible periods of the world's history, with such rare sagacity, patience, cheerfulness and courage. \* \* \* I have followed his career with an ever increasing veneration for a character and an intellect which seemed to expand, and to grow more vigorous the greater the demand that was made upon their strength.—*J. Lothrop Motley, (U. S. Minister to Austria.)*

I think it is generally conceded that the death of no man has ever occurred that awakened such prompt and universal sympathy, at once among our own people and among foreign nations. Even here in foreign lands, what American has not been surprised by the universal demonstration elicited from all parties and from every class, from the humblest and from the most exalted. \* \* \* Such a tribute was never paid to our country before; such homage was never paid to any other American. \* \* \* His death and the time and manner of it seemed to have rendered his whole public career luminous, and to make it clear that he had been fighting the fight of humanity, of justice and of civilization. \* \* \* His public and private virtues have secretly but steadily been gravelling themselves upon the hearts of mankind.—We, his compatriots, know best what a rare collection of public and private virtues went down into the grave with Abraham Lincoln. \* \* \* That simple-hearted and single-minded patriot has been transfigured, and has taken his place in history as the impersonation of a cause, which, hereafter, it will be blasphemy to assail.—*John Bigelow, (U. S. Minister to France.)*

The man who has fallen was immolated for no act of his own. It may well be doubted whether during his whole career he ever made a single personal enemy. In this peculiarity he shone prominently among statesmen.—Abraham Lincoln was a faithful exponent of the sentiments of a whole people. The ball that penetrated his brain was addressed to the heart of each and every one of us. He has paid the penalty for executing our will. \* \* \* It is one of the peculiar merits of Mr. Lincoln that he knew how to give shape, in action, to the popular feelings as they developed themselves under his observation. He never sought to lead, but rather to follow, and thus he succeeded in the difficult task of successfully combining conservatism with progress. His labor was always to improve. Hence it was that he conducted a war of unexampled magnitude, always bearing in mind the primary purpose for which it had been commenced, at the same time associating with it broader ones as the opportunity came. He had pledged himself at the outset to accomplish certain objects, and he never forgot that pledge. \* \* \* The time had at last arrived when he might honestly claim that it would be fulfilled. It was in that moment he was taken away. On the very same day of the year when the National flag, which just four

years before, had been lowered to triumphant enemies at Fort Sumter, was once more lifted to its original position by the hand of the same officer who had suffered the indignity that commenced the war, Abraham Lincoln fell. His work was done. He had fought the good fight; he had finished his course:—and now we may well cry out: “Go up, go up,” with your gory temples twined with the evergreen symbols of a patriot’s wreath, and bearing the double glory of a martyr’s crown. Go up, while for us here remaining on earth, your memory shall be garnered in the hearts of us and our latest posterity, in common with the priceless treasure heaped up by the great fathers of the Republic, and close by that of the matchless Washington. \* \* \* Let us draw together as one man in the tribute of our admiration of one of the purest, one of the most single-minded, and noble-hearted patriots that ever ruled over the people of any land.—*Charles Frances Adams*. (At meeting of Americans, resident in London, St. James Hall, May 1st, 1865.)

### LINCOLN APHORISMS.

The battle of freedom is to be fought out on principle.

There is both a power and a magic in popular opinion.

I have no policy. My hope is to save the Union. I do the best I can to-day with the hope that when tomorrow comes I am ready for its duties.—(Said to General J. M. Palmer.)

If I know my heart my gratitude is free from any taint of personal triumph.

I go for all sharing the privileges of the Government who assist in bearing its burdens. Consequently I go for admitting all whites to the right of suffrage who pay taxes or bear arms,—by no means excluding women.

It is no pleasure for me to triumph over any one.

I am the peoples’ attorney in this great affair. I am trying to do the best I can for my client,—the country.

Every man is said to have his peculiar ambition. Whether it be true or not I can say, for one, I have no other so great as that of being truly esteemed by my fellow men by rendering myself worthy of their esteem.

If he has no friend I will be his friend.

We should avoid planting too many thorns in the bosom of society.

If any man ceases to attack me I never remember the past, against him.

If there were more praying and less swearing it would be better for our country.

I am satisfied that when the Almighty wants me to do or not to do a particular thing He finds a way of letting me know it.



I shall go to God with my sorrows.

We shall sooner have a fowl by hatching the egg than by smashing it.—(Said in reference to the La. Con.)

The discipline and character of the National forces should not suffer, nor the cause they defend be imperiled by the profanation of the day, or the name of the Most High.

War does not admit of holidays.

The honor is all yours, for I believe none of us went further than to acquiesce. (To Sherman on capture of Savannah.)

No part of the honor for plan or execution is mine. (After Appomattix.)

With malice towards none, with charity for all.

While I hold myself, without mock modesty, the humblest of all individuals that have ever been elevated to the Presidency, I have a more difficult task to perform than any one of them.

I don't believe it is wise to swap horses while crossing a stream.

Now I am about to call upon the band for a tune that our adversaries have endeavored to appropriate. But we fairly captured it yesterday, and the Att'y General gave me his legal opinion that it is now our property. So I ask the band to play "Dixie." (Said at close of address on Appomattox surrender.)

A private soldier has as much right to justice as a Major General.

Die when I may I want it said of me by those who know me best, that I always plucked a thistle and planted a flower when I thought a flower would grow.

God selects his own instruments and sometimes they are queer ones. He chose me to steer the ship through a great crisis.

I never shall live out the four years of my term. When the Rebellion is crushed my work is done.

Reasonable men have long since agreed that intemperance is one of the greatest, if not the greatest, of all evils of mankind.

No man resolved to make the most of himself can spare time for personal contention.

If slavery is not wrong nothing is wrong.

I have not willingly planted a thorn in any man's bosom.

Let us have faith that right makes might; and, in that faith let us to the end dare to do our duty as we understand it.



I know that the Lord is always on the side of the right. But it is my constant anxiety and prayer that I and this Nation shall be on the Lord's side.

I have always made it a rule if people will not turn out for me, I will for them. If I didn't there would be a collision.

Better give your path to a dog than be bitten by him in contending for the right. Even killing the dog would not cure the bite.

You can fool some of the people all the time; you can fool all the people some of the time; but you can't fool all the people all the time.

I protest against the counterfeit logic which concludes that because I do not want a black woman for a slave I must necessarily want her for a wife. \* \* \* I shall never marry a negress, but I have no objection to any one else doing so. If a white man wants to marry a negro woman, let him do so,—if the negro woman can stand it.

I shall do nothing in malice. What I deal with is too vast for malicious dealing.

Even though much provoked let us do nothing through passion and ill temper.

Gold is good in its place; but living, brave and patriotic men are better than gold.

Whatever shall appear to be God's will I do.

I am a patient man, always ready to forgive on the Christian terms of repentance, and also to give ample time for repentance.

The severest justice may not always be the best policy.

The world is in want of a good definition for the word liberty. \* \* \* The shepherd drives the wolf from the sheep's throat, for which the sheep thanks the shepherd as a liberator, while the wolf denounces him for the same act, as the destroyer of liberty.

The present moment finds me at the White House, yet there is as good a chance for your children as there was for my father's.

Labor is superior to capital and deserves much the higher consideration.

No men living are more worthy to be trusted than those who toil up from poverty.

Moral cowardice is something which I think I never had.

I authorize no bargains, and will be bound by none. (Said in reference to nomination.)

I was losing interest in politics when the repeal of the Missouri Compromise aroused me again. (To E. B. Washburne.)

If there is a man that can push our armies forward one mile further or one hour faster, he is the man that ought to be in my place. (Thurlow Weed.)

Wealth is simply a superfluity of what we don't need.

I do not think much of a man who is not wiser to-day than he was yesterday. I have always found that mercy bears richer fruit than strict justice.

The plainest print cannot be read through a gold eagle.

The contract awarded to me on the 6th of November, 1860, was a big job.

I do not seek applause, nor to amuse the people; I want to convince them.

We shall not fail, if we stand firm, we shall not fail. Wise counsels may accelerate, or mistakes delay, but sooner or later, the victory is sure to come. (June, 1858, at Springfield.)

*The great job is finished.* I cannot but congratulate all present, myself, the country, and the whole world, on this great moral victory. (On passage of resolution for Constitutional amendment abolishing slavery.)

It really hurts me very much to suppose that I have wronged anybody on earth.

You may have a wen or a cancer upon your person, and not be able to cut it out lest you bleed to death; but surely, it is no way to cure it, to ingraft and spread it over your whole body,—that is no proper way of treating what you regard a wrong.

It matters not what becomes of me.—If I go down, I intend to go down like the Cumberland with my colors flying.

One war at a time.

He who would be no slave must have no slave.

I am altogether unconscious of having attempted double dealing anywhere.

I am always willing to forgive on the Christian terms of repentance, still I must save this government if possible.

If they decline what I suggest you scarcely need ask what I will do.

It is good policy never to plead what you need not, lest you oblige yourself to prove what you cannot.

By a course of reasoning, Euclid proves that the angles of a triangle are equal to two right angles. Now if you undertake to disprove that proposition, would you prove it false by calling Euclid a liar?

Governor,—I'll make the ground of this country *too hot for the foot of a slave*, if he"—(a free negro seized in New Orleans), "be not returned to his home in Illinois."







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